CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

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MAYOR

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BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

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ARLEEN P. TAYLOR
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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November 19, 2012

#1 BOE

City Council
Room No. 395
City Hall

Subject: POLICE ACADEMY REPLACEMENT TRAINING FACILITY CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE AND PROJECT APPROVAL (W.O. NO. E170828F)

As recommended in the accompanying report of the City Engineer, which this Board has adopted, the Board of Public Works recommends that the City Council consider and adopt the CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, which finds that the project will not cause significant environmental impacts, and that the City Council:

a. Review and consider the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;

b. Find that, on the basis of the whole record, there is no substantial evidence that the project as mitigated will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the City's independent judgment and analysis;

c. Adopt the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;

d. Approve the project as described in the Initial Study; and

e. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Program.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated construction cost of the project is approximately $12,000,000 with funding from surplus Proposition Q Public Safety Facilities General Obligation Bond Program savings, program contingency and accrued interest. The project will not impact the General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

Arleen P. Taylor, Executive Officer
Board of Public Works

APT:mp

Department of Public Works

Bureau of Engineering
Report No. 1

November 19, 2012
CD No. 1

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD
PUBLIC WORKS OF THE CITY
of Los Angeles California
AND REFERRED TO THE CITY COUNCIL
NOV 19 2012

Executive Officer

POLICE ACADEMY REPLACEMENT TRAINING FACILITY CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE AND PROJECT APPROVAL (WORK ORDER NO. E170828F)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Consider and adopt the CEQA Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, which finds that the project will not cause significant environmental impacts.

2. Upon adoption, forward this report with the following recommendations to the City Council for their consideration and approval:

   a. Review and consider the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;

   b. Find that, on the basis of the whole record, there is no substantial evidence that the project as mitigated will have a significant effect on the environment and that the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration reflects the City's independent judgment and analysis;

   c. Adopt the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration;

   d. Approve the project as described in the Initial Study; and

   e. Adopt the Mitigation Monitoring Program.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The estimated construction cost of the project is approximately $12,000,000 with funding from surplus Proposition Q Public Safety Facilities General Obligation Bond Program savings, program contingency and accrued interest. The project will not impact the General Fund.

TRANSMITTAL

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (includes *Mitigated Negative Declaration*, dated September 19, 2012; *Initial Study*, dated August 9, 2012; *Comments and Responses*, dated September 12, 2012; and *Mitigation Monitoring Program*, dated September 12, 2012).

DISCUSSION

Background

On March 5, 2002, the voters of the City of Los Angeles approved Proposition Q - Citywide Public Safety Bond Program, authorizing the issuance of $600 million in General Obligation Bonds to improve renovate, expand and construct 911-Police-Fire-

Paramedic Facilities. The original scope of work has been completed and a savings of $69 million has been realized.

In August 2008, the Proposition Q Administrative Oversight Committee (AOC) approved the use of the savings to fund the Phase II projects which included the Police Academy Replacement Training Facility project. The City Council and Mayor approved the funding in April 2009.

The Police Academy at Elysian Park (the "Academy") has been serving the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) for training entry-level officers (recruits) as well as in-service officers since the 1930's. Recruits in each class will spend their first and last month training at the Academy campus, and attending the graduation there at the end of their 6-month training period. On average, at least 12 classes of recruit trainees are trained per year. In-service officers training are carried out year-round to maintain their California Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) Certification status.

Training currently occurs in various trailer buildings on the Academy campus; this project would replace these trailers, and provide a permanent training facility for officers and recruits.

Project Description

The project site would be located in the existing Academy campus at 1891 North Academy Drive in the Elysian Park area, approximately 1.7 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, adjacent to the Dodger Stadium parking lot in the Silver Lake - Echo Park - Elysian Valley Community Plan Area and within Council District No. 1.

The proposed multi-level, 24,000-square-foot training facility would be constructed on a sloped site adjacent to the private portion of Academy Drive and west of the existing Academy buildings. There are currently trailers and a tennis court at this location. The proposed permanent facility would provide flexible classroom space, office space, a conference room, a break room, and storage space. In addition, the project would provide three disabled parking space adjacent to the facility and 46 surface parking spaces on the southeastern portion of the campus. The facility would house the same complement of staff as present conditions.

Public Review

The proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study were circulated for public review and comment from August 9 to August 28, 2012. A notice of intent/availability was published in the Los Angeles Times on Thursday, August 9, 2012. A notice of intent/availability was mailed to interested parties, and to owners and occupants of properties adjacent to the proposed project site. The notice was also filed with the City and County Clerks. The Mitigated Negative Declaration and Initial Study were available for review at the Edendale Branch Library, the Echo Park Branch Library, on-line at the Bureau of Engineering's website, or by calling the Environmental Management Group. Three correspondences were received during the public review period. Copies of the

correspondences along with responses can be found as an attachment to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (Transmittal). The comments received did not necessitate changes in the project or the conclusion or findings of the Initial Study.

Project Schedule

The above recommended actions are necessary steps in the design phase of the project schedule. The project delivery schedule anticipates design completion of the proposed project by summer of 2013. Council action is needed before that date to avoid delaying the project.

(JED ATK RMK VJ DJW)

Report reviewed by:

BOE (ADM and BPD)

Report prepared by:

Environmental Management Group

James E. Doty
Group Manager
Phone No. (213) 485-5759

JED/KY/NM/09-2012-0158.EMG.gva

Questions regarding this report
may be referred to:
Karmen Yuen, Civil Engineer/Project Manager:
Phone No. (213) 485-4672
E-mail: Karmen.Yuen@lacity.org
and/or
Norman Mundy, Environmental Specialist
Phone No. (213) 485-5737
E-mail: Norman.Mundy@lacity.org

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Lee Moore

Gary Lee Moore, P.E.
City Engineer

Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration

for

Police Academy Replacement Training Facility

W.O. E170828F

City of Los Angeles

Bureau of Engineering
Environmental Management Group

2012

TRANSMITTAL

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
ROOM 395, CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

(Article I, City CEQA Guidelines)

LEAD CITY AGENCY AND ADDRESS: Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering 1149 South Broadway, Suite 600, Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213	**COUNCIL DISTRICT** 1
PROJECT TITLE: Police Academy Replacement Training Facility (W.O. E170828F)	T.G. 594 G - 6, 7

PROJECT LOCATION: The proposed project would be located in the City of Los Angeles at the existing Los Angeles Police Academy (the "Academy") at 1891 North Academy Drive in the Elysian Park area, approximately 1.7 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, adjacent to the Dodger Stadium parking lot in the Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plan area.

DESCRIPTION: The City of Los Angeles is proposing to construct a multi-level, 24,000-square-foot training facility on a sloped site adjacent to the private portion of Academy Drive and west of the existing Academy buildings. There are currently trailers and a tennis court at this location. The facility would provide flexible classroom space, office space, a conference room, and a break room, and would serve as a permanent training facility for officers and recruits. Training currently occurs in various trailer buildings on the Academy campus; the proposed project would replace these trailers. In addition, the project would provide three disabled parking spaces adjacent to the facility and 46 surface parking spaces on the southeastern portion of the campus. The facility would house the same complement of staff as present conditions. The proposed project would be funded with revenue from Proposition Q – the Citywide Public Safety Bond Measure approved by voters in 2002.

In compliance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) an Initial Study has been prepared to assess the potential environmental impacts of this project. Mitigation measures have been incorporated into the project to ensure that any impacts are reduced to a less than significant level.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT IF OTHER THAN CITY AGENCY:

FINDING: The **City Engineer** of the City of Los Angeles has determined that this project as mitigated will not have a significant effect on the environment for the following reasons: **See attached Initial Study with Comments and Responses and Mitigation Monitoring Program.**

SEE THE ATTACHED PAGES FOR ANY MITIGATION MEASURES IMPOSED

Any written objections received during the public review period are attached, together with the responses of the lead City agency.

THE INITIAL STUDY PREPARED FOR THIS PROJECT IS ATTACHED

PERSON PREPARING THIS FORM	**ADDRESS**	**TELEPHONE NUMBER**
Norman Mundy Environmental Specialist II	1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600 Los Angeles, 90015-2213	(213) 485-5737

SIGNATURE (Official) James E Doty

James E. Doty, Environmental Affairs Officer
Environmental Management Group

DATE 9-19-12

:negdec.frm (1/94)

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT

INITIAL STUDY

(Article I - City CEQA Guidelines)

Council District: 1 Date: August 9, 2012

Lead City Agency: Bureau of Engineering – Bond Programs Division

Project Title: POLICE ACADEMY REPLACEMENT TRAINING FACILITY (W.O. E170828F)

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of an Initial Study

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) was enacted in 1970 for the purpose of providing decision-makers and the public with information regarding environmental effects of proposed projects, identifying means of avoiding environmental damage, and disclosing to the public the reasons behind a project's approval, even if it leads to environmental damage. The Bureau of Engineering Environmental Management Group has determined that the proposed project is subject to CEQA, and no exemptions apply. Therefore, the preparation of an initial study is required.

An initial study is a preliminary analysis conducted by the lead agency, in consultation with other agencies (responsible or trustee agencies, as applicable), to determine whether there is substantial evidence that a project may have a significant effect on the environment. If the initial study concludes that the project, with mitigation, may have a significant effect on the environment, an environmental impact report should be prepared; otherwise, the lead agency may adopt a negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration.

This initial study has been prepared in accordance with CEQA (Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Section 15000 et seq.), and the City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines (1981, amended July 31, 2002).

B. Document Format

This initial study is organized into eight sections and one appendix, as follows:

Section I, Introduction: provides an overview of the project and the CEQA environmental documentation process.

Section II, Project Description: provides a description of the project location, project background, and project components.

Section III, Existing Environment: provides a description of the existing environmental setting, with a focus on features of the environment that could affect the proposed project or be affected by the proposed project.

Section IV, Potential Environmental Effects: provides a detailed discussion of the environmental factors that could be affected by this project, as indicated by the screening checklist in Appendix A.

Section V, Mitigation Measures: provides the mitigation measures that would be implemented to ensure that potential adverse impacts of the proposed project would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.

Section VI, Preparation and Consultation: provides a list of key personnel involved in the preparation of this report and key personnel consulted.

Section VII, Determination – Recommended Environmental Documentation: provides the recommended environmental documentation for the proposed project.

Section VIII, References: provides a list of reference materials used during the preparation of this report.

Appendix A, Environmental Screening Checklist: provides the analysis on which this initial study is based.

C. CEQA Process

Once the adoption of a negative declaration (or mitigated negative declaration) has been proposed, a public comment period opens for no less than 20 days, or 30 days if there is state agency involvement. This document will be circulated for comment for no less than 30 days. The purpose of this comment period is to provide public agencies and the general public an opportunity to review the initial study and comment on the adequacy of the analysis and the findings of the lead agency regarding potential environmental impacts of the proposed project. If a reviewer believes the project may have a significant effect on the environment, the reviewer should (1) identify the specific effect, (2) explain why it is believed the effect would

occur, and (3) explain why it is believed the effect would be significant. Facts or expert opinion supported by facts should be provided as the basis of such comments.

After the close of the public review period, the Board of Public Works considers the negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration, together with any comments received during the public review process, and makes a recommendation to the Los Angeles City Council (City Council) regarding whether to approve the project. One or more council committees may then review the proposal and documents and make their own recommendation to the full City Council. The City Council, as the decision-making body, also considers the negative declaration or mitigated negative declaration, together with any comments received during the public review process, in the final decision to approve or disapprove the project.

During the project approval process, persons and/or agencies may address either the Board of Public Works or the City Council regarding the project. Public notification of agenda items for the Board of Public Works, council committees, and City Council is posted 72 hours prior to the public meeting. The council agenda can be obtained by visiting the Council and Public Services Division of the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Suite 395; calling 213/978-1047, 213/978-1048, or TDD/TTY 213/978-1055; or accessing the Internet at http://www.lacity.org/CLK/index.htm.

If the project is approved, the city will file a Notice of Determination with the County Clerk within 5 days. The Notice of Determination will be posted by the County Clerk within 24 hours of receipt. This begins a 30-day statute of limitations on legal challenges to approval under CEQA. The ability to challenge the approval in court may be limited to those persons who objected to approval of the project as well as issues that were presented to the lead agency by any person, either orally or in writing, during the public comment period.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.

II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Location

The proposed project would be located in the City of Los Angeles at the existing Los Angeles Police Academy (Academy) at 1891 North Academy Drive in the Elysian Park area, approximately 1.7 miles north of downtown Los Angeles, adjacent to the Dodger Stadium parking lot (see Figures 1 and 2).

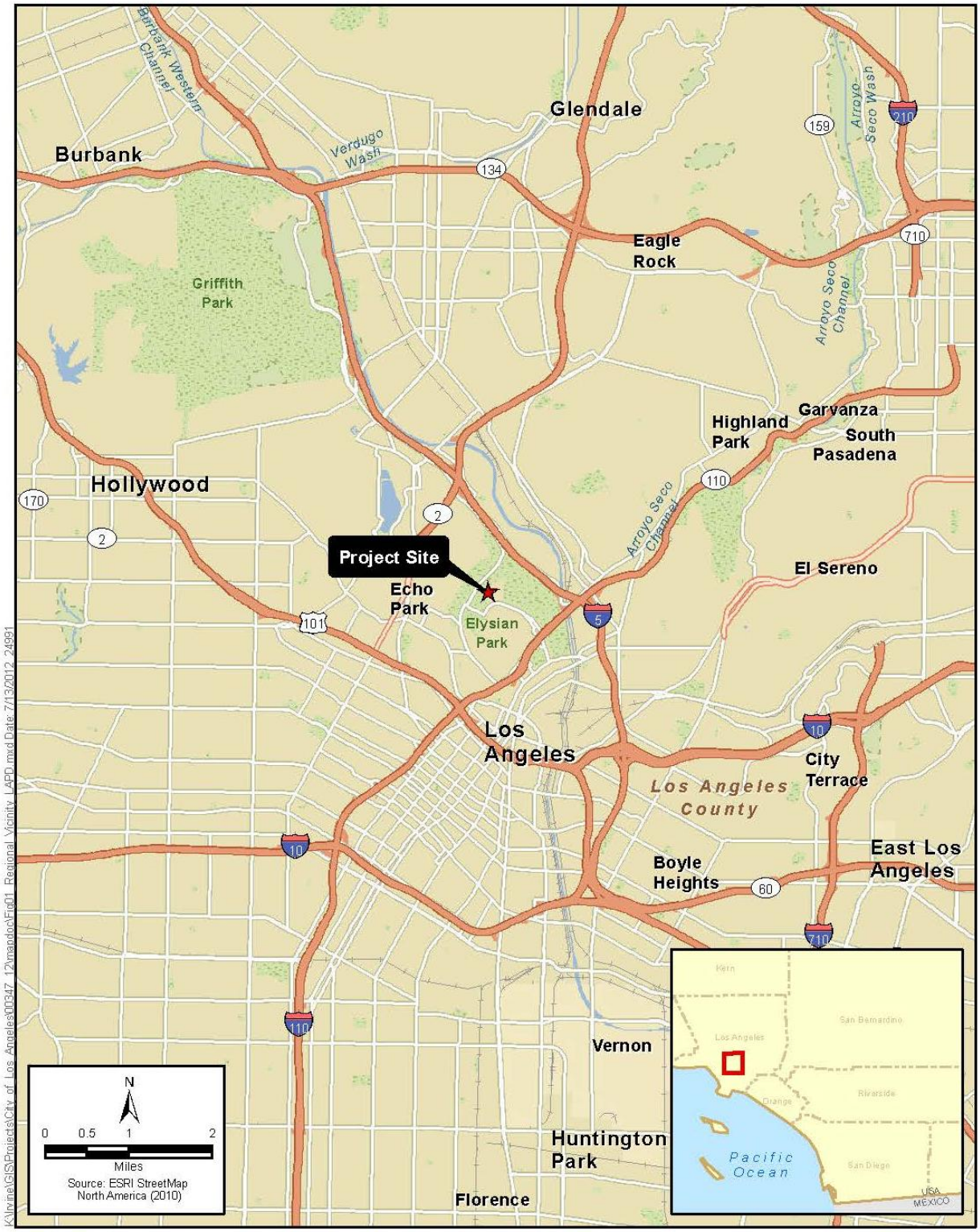

Figure 1
Regional Vicinity Map
Los Angeles Police Academy Project

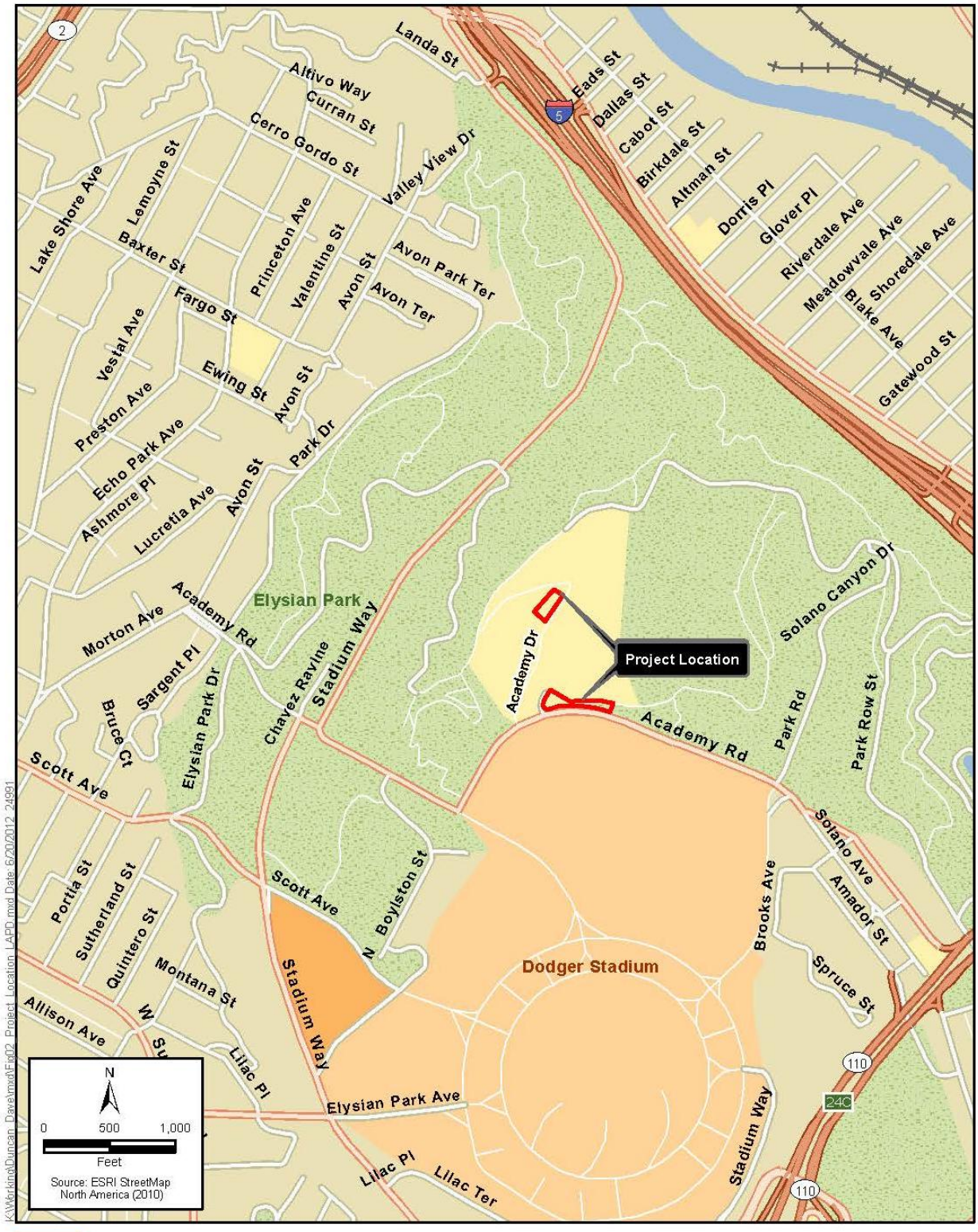

Figure 2
Project Location
Los Angeles Police Academy Project

B. Purpose

The purpose of the project is to provide a permanent training facility for in-service officers of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) as well as recruits (entry-level probationary LAPD employees) at the Police Academy campus. The Academy campus has been serving LAPD for training recruits as well as in-service officers since the 1930s. Training, both in the field and in the classroom, is essential for LAPD personnel (currently 9,947 sworn and 2,827 civilian employees) to keep up with legislative changes, sharpen skills, and adopt innovations (in technologies, methodologies, etc.) to the ever-changing public safety environment. Recruits in each class spend their first and last month training at the Academy campus and attend the graduation there at the end of the six-month training period. On average, at least 12 classes of recruits are trained per year. In-service officer training is carried out year-round to maintain officer's POST Certification status. The proposed project would replace the existing trailer buildings on the campus with a permanent structure that would meet current LAPD training needs and provide flexibility for future training activities. Academy enrollment is not anticipated to increase as a result of the project.

The proposed project would be funded by Proposition Q, the Citywide Public Safety Bond Program approved by voters in 2002, which authorized the issuance of $600 million in general obligation bonds to improve, renovate, expand, and construct public safety facilities. The original scope of work has been completed, and a savings of $69 million has been realized. In August 2008, the Proposition Q Administrative Oversight Committee approved the use of the savings to fund Phase II projects, which include the proposed project. The proposed project was approved by the City Council and mayor in April 2009.

C. Description

The proposed project would construct a 24,000-square-foot multi-level building on a sloped site adjacent to the private portion of Academy Drive and west of the existing Academy buildings (see Figure 3). The new building would provide 9,600 square feet of flexible classroom space and a virtual teaching component to accommodate 310 attendees; 6,200 square feet of open office space, including a conference room and a break room; 4,800 square feet of "back of house" space (i.e., elevators, toilets, custodial space); and 3,360 square feet of storage space. The second level would include the classroom space and a majority of the office space, while the storage space, virtual teaching area, and balance of the office space would be located on the first level. The proposed building would replace an existing tennis court and on-site trailers, which are currently used as classrooms. The building would qualify for a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver designation from the U.S. Green Building Council, as mandated by City of Los Angeles policy for newly constructed public buildings, and comply with the Los Angeles Green Building Code, which is based on the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code, known as CALGreen. The new building would be designed to be visually compatible with the

existing architectural environment in terms of bulk and height.

The proposed project would include code-required parking in two separate locations, with one area adjacent to the proposed training facility and the other in the southeastern portion of the campus. The parking area adjacent to the training facility would include three spaces for the disabled. In the southeastern portion of the campus, the parking lot on the corner of Academy Road and Malvina Avenue would be expanded, paved, and striped to provide an additional 46 spaces, increasing the total number of spaces at this lot to 61 (see Figure 3). Two of the three trailers on this lot would be removed; the third would be relocated in the same area.

Construction of the proposed project would last from the spring of 2014 to the summer of 2015, a period of approximately 16 to 18 months. During this time, partial closures of Malvina Avenue and Academy Drive are anticipated, but long-term access to the site would not be affected. In addition, partial closures of Academy Road may be needed for utility service connections.

Partial road closures would be minimized during peak periods to the extent feasible. Grading would occur at the project site, and an estimated 9,100 cubic yards of soil would be removed. An additional 700 cubic yards of soil would be removed from the proposed parking lot expansion area. The project would comply with grading and hauling requirements set forth by the Department of Building and Safety.

Other improvements would include retaining walls, fences, flat work, and landscaping. Final site grades are expected to be approximately the same as the current grades. The site for the new building is already terraced, with the different levels separated by retaining walls. The split-level building would take advantage of these existing terraces, but some grade changes and new retaining walls would be required as part of proposed development.

Operational characteristics of the proposed project would include the following:

1. The building would be accessible to LAPD personnel 24/7, with normal business hours being 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. The building would not be open to the public.

2. The proposed project would include five classrooms of various sizes to provide flexibility and one classroom for use as a virtual teaching environment. Fixed seating would not be provided in the classrooms.

3. The proposed project would include general open office space for LAPD employees, including officers and their supervisors. The office space would be supported by a conference room, a break room, and space for equipment and supplies. The proposed project would include storage space for materials that support classroom and office activities.

4. The proposed project would have the ability to hook up to a mobile generator in the event of an emergency, although a permanent back-up power connection

would not be provided.

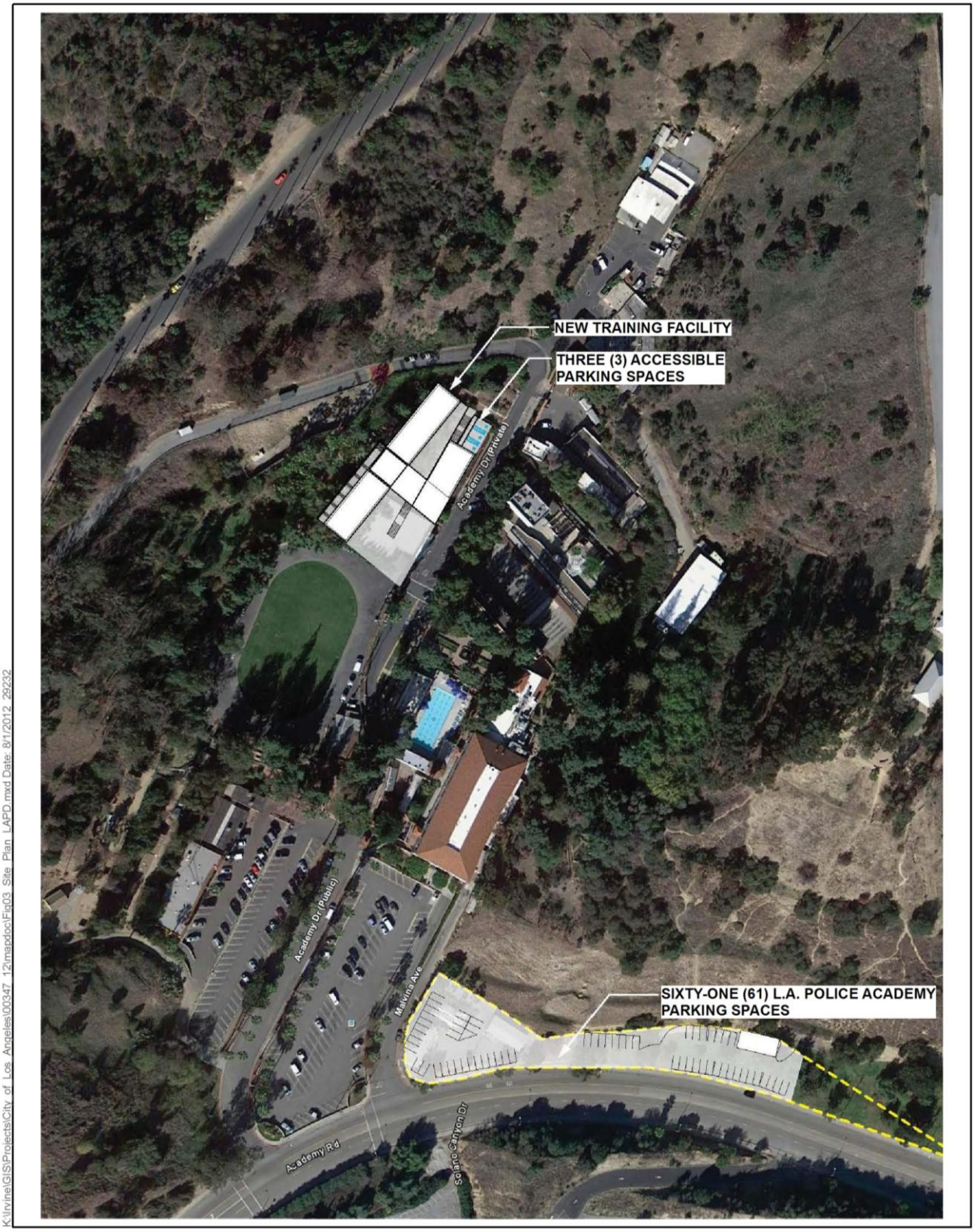

Figure 3
Project Site Plan
Los Angeles Police Academy Project

The analysis in this document assumes that, unless otherwise stated, the project would be designed, constructed, and operated pursuant to all applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, and formally adopted city standards, including:

- Los Angeles Municipal Code (Reference – 17)
- Bureau of Engineering Standard Plans (Reference – 25)
- Additions and Amendments to the Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Reference – 24)
- Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction (Reference – 1)
- Work Area Traffic Control Handbook (Reference – 2)

III. EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

The project area is in the hills of Elysian Park, approximately 2 miles north of downtown Los Angeles and 0.5 mile from Dodger Stadium. It lies within the Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plan Area and is identified as open space. The site of the proposed training facility has a zoning designation of [Q] OS-1-XL, and the proposed parking area is designated OS-1XL. Neighboring land uses include the parking lot of Dodger Stadium and open space, with the nearest residence located 0.4 mile south of the project site. The nearest commercial development (other than Dodger Stadium) is 0.6 mile west of the project site. The Police Academy campus is on a gentle south-facing slope at an elevation approximately 600 feet above sea level. Hills are found to the east and west. The campus is accessed from Academy Road, an east/west road with two eastbound lanes, one westbound lane, a left-turn lane, and unrestricted street parking.

IV. POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The environmental factors checked below could be affected by this project because at least one “potentially significant impact” has been identified (see checklist in Appendix A). A detailed discussion of these potential environmental effects follows.

☐ Aesthetics	☐ Agriculture and Forestry Resources	☐ Air Quality
☒ Biological Resources	☒ Cultural Resources	☒ Geology/Soils
☐ Greenhouse Gas Emissions	☐ Hazards and Hazardous Materials	☐ Hydrology/Water Quality
☐ Land Use/Planning	☐ Mineral Resources	☐ Noise
☐ Population/Housing	☐ Public Services	☐ Recreation
☐ Transportation/Traffic	☐ Utilities/Service Systems	☐ Mandatory Findings of Significance

A. Aesthetics

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A). The project would be compatible with the visual character of the area and would not obscure any scenic views or generate excessive ambient light.

B. Agriculture and Forestry Resources

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A).

C. Air Quality

Initial screening determined that the project would result in a less-than-significant impact on air quality. Table 1 shows the projected peak daily emissions during construction (see Appendix A).

Table 1: Peak Daily Emissions (lbs/day)

	ROG	NO_X	CO	SO_2	PM10	PM2.5
Construction Emissions (lbs/day, unmitigated)	13	27	21	<1	4	2
SCAQMD Regional Construction Thresholds (lbs/day)	75	100	550	150	150	55
Exceed Threshold?	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**	**No**
SCAQMD Local Construction Thresholds (lbs/day)	N/A	161	1,861	N/A	5	3
Exceed Threshold?	**N/A**	**No**	**No**	**N/A**	**No**	**No**

Source: ICF International, 2012. CalEEMod output sheets provided in air quality appendix.

SCAQMD = South Coast Air Quality Management District

D. Biological Resources

Initial screening determined that, with implementation of mitigation measures BIO-1, BIO-2, and BIO-3, the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact on biological resources. A peregrine falcon and two mature protected trees were identified in the study area. Aside from these findings of protected species, it is unlikely that the project area would serve as a healthy habitat for special-status species, including those listed in Table 2, below. Although the project area is surrounded by open space to the north, east, and west, the project site is part of a developed campus that contains four shooting ranges. In addition, the project site is within 0.5 mile of Dodger Stadium, which is responsible for generating a substantial amount of ambient light during nighttime events.

Table 2: CNDDB Records Search Results for the Los Angeles Quadrangle		
Species	**Habitat Associations**	**Comments**
American badger (*Taxidea taxus*)	Most abundant in drier, open stages of most shrub, forest, and herbaceous habitats.	Presumed extant: no suitable habitat found at project site.
bank swallow (*Riparia riparia*)	Requires vertical banks and cliffs with fine-textured or sandy soils near streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, or the ocean for nesting. Feeds primarily over grassland, shrubland, savannah, and open riparian areas during breeding season and over grassland, brushland, wetlands, and cropland during migration.	California listed as threatened; extirpated in project area.
burrowing owl (*Athene cunicularia*)	A year-long resident of open, dry grassland and desert habitats as well as grass, forb, and open shrub stages of pinyon-juniper and ponderosa pine habitats.	Presumed extant; no suitable habitat found at project site.
southwestern willow flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii extimus*)	A rare to locally uncommon summer resident in wet meadow and montane riparian habitats with elevations of 600 to 2,500 meters in the Sierra Nevada and Cascade Range.	Federal and California Listed as Endangered; Presumed extant; implementation of BIO-2 would avoid significant impacts
Greata's aster (*Symphyotrichum greatae*)	Damp places in canyons at elevations of 300 to 2,000 meters. Habitat found on the southern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains.	Possibly extirpated; no suitable habitat found at project site
western mastiff bat (*Eumops perotis californicus*)	Roost sites are in crevices in vertical cliffs, usually granite or consolidated sandstone, and in broken terrain with exposed rock faces; may also be found occasionally in high buildings, trees, and tunnels.	Presumed extant; implementation of BIO-2 would avoid significant impacts.
hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*)	Woodlands and forests with medium- to large-sized trees.	Presumed extant; implementation of BIO-2 would avoid significant impacts.
prostrate vernal pool navarretia (*Navarretia prostrata*)	Vernal pools and moist places to 600 meters in elevation.	Possibly extirpated; no suitable habitat found at project site.
big free-tailed bat (*Nyctinomops macrotis*)	The big free-tailed bat is rare in California. Records of the species are from urban areas of San Diego County and vagrants found in fall and winter.	Presumed extant; no suitable habitat found at project site.
round-leaved filaree (*California macrophylla*)	Open sites, grassland, scrub below 1,200 meters in elevation.	Possibly extirpated; no suitable habitat found at project site.
mesa horkelia (*Horkelia cuneata* ssp. *puberula*)	Dry, sandy, coastal chaparral between 70 and 870 meters in elevation.	Extirpated.

Table 2: CNDDB Records Search Results for the Los Angeles Quadrangle		
Species	**Habitat Associations**	**Comments**
coast horned lizard (*Phrynosoma blainvillii*)	The coast horned lizard is uncommon to common in suitable habitat. Occurs in valley-foothill hardwood, conifer, and riparian habitats as well as in pine-cypress, juniper, and annual grassland habitats.	Possibly extirpated; no suitable habitat found at project site
Robinson's pepper-grass (*Lepidium virginicum* var. *robinsonii*)	Moist valleys and stream bottoms between sea level and 1,500 meters in elevation.	Presumed extant; no suitable habitat found at project site.
Los Angeles sunflower (*Helianthus nuttallii* ssp. *parishii*)	Found in marshes in southwestern California; last seen in 1937.	Possibly Extirpated; no suitable habitat found at project site.
Walnut Forest	A vegetative community characterized by the California walnut (*Juglans californica*); commonly found in alluvial soils between 50 and 900 meters in elevation.	Presumed Extant; community not found at project site.
Source: 9 (CNDDB) 2012; 38 (Jepson) 2012.		

A literature review was conducted to identify potential special-status biological resources that may be found on the site. The review included a search of the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB) for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Los Angeles 7.5-minute quadrangle, the results of which are shown in Table 2. In addition, a search was conducted of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Inventory of Rare and Endangered Plants for the Los Angeles, Hollywood, Burbank, Beverly Hills, and Pasadena 7.5-minute USGS quadrangles. The most recent U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Carlsbad office database was also queried for critical habitat maps and the locations of threatened and endangered species.

For this initial study, special-status species are those species that are (1) listed, proposed for listing, or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act; (2) listed or candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the California Endangered Species Act; (3) listed as rare under the Native Plant Protection Act; (4) a state species of special concern or a fully protected species; or (5) plant species designated by CNPS as a California Rare Plant Rank 1A, 1B, 2, 3, or 4 species.

The biological survey area includes the grading limits for the proposed new building and parking area. The site visit was conducted on June 2, 2012, from 6:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. by ICF International biologists Jennifer Cogswell and Ryan Gilmore. Weather conditions during the site visit consisted of temperatures ranging from 65˚F to 67˚F, winds ranging from 0 to 3 mph, and mostly cloudy skies but with good visibility. The site visit focused on vegetation mapping, tree identification, and habitat assessments for special-status plants and wildlife. The study area was evaluated for the presence, absence, or likelihood of occurrence of special-status species and vegetation types as well as more general biological resource issues that could pose

a constraint to the project through applicable laws and regulations. Focused surveys for plants or wildlife were not performed during this site visit. Parameters evaluated for special-status plants included topography, soil conditions, elevation, hydrology, the site's operational activities, and life history needs for the specific species. Please refer to Appendix A for the results of the field survey.

E. Cultural Resources

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in impacts that would be less than significant with implementation of mitigation measure PR-1 to ensure that previously undiscovered paleontological resources are protected (see Appendix A). The Police Academy campus contains four structures that are currently listed or eligible for listing as historic resources, but the proposed project would not affect any of them. No known archaeological or other unique cultural resources are known to exist on the site, but if any items of archaeological or cultural significance are discovered, applicable laws, regulations and City standards and standard operating procedures would avoid any significant impacts.

F. Geology and Soils

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact with mitigation (see Appendix A). The project area is located within an area that is prone to landslides. In addition, the area is approximately 0.15 mile from the Elysian Park thrust. However, the project would comply with building codes and seismic regulations and implement mitigation measure GEO-1 to minimize impacts.

G. Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact (see Appendix A). Table 3 provides projected carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions data.

Table 3: CO_2 Emissions

	Construction Phase	Operation Phase
Daily	1.51 metric tons[a]	0.56 metric tons
Annual	237 metric tons[b]	205.73 metric tons

Source: ICF 2012.

[a] Daily construction emissions takes the annual emissions for 2014 (237 metric tons) divided by 365 days.

[b] Annual construction emissions uses the annual emissions for 2014, the year with the greatest proportion of construction emissions. This differs from SCAQMD guidelines in which overall construction emissions are amortized over 30 years. The project would result in a total of 263.66 metric tons during the construction phase, but over 30 years, construction emissions equate to 8.79 metric tons per year.

H. Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in impacts that would be less than significant (see Appendix A). Construction of the project would involve the use of hazardous materials, including petroleum fuels and oils for construction equipment. The release of these materials could occur through spills or from runoff during storm events, but this would not pose a substantial risk with adherence to applicable regulations. Operation of the project would not involve the use of hazardous materials. The project would be located in an area that is susceptible to wildfires. However, compliance with applicable regulations, including those related to timely brush clearance, would minimize the risks.

I. Hydrology and Water Quality

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in less-than-significant impacts (see Appendix A). Construction of the project would involve petroleum fuels and oils that could pose a risk to water quality if contaminants were to spill, but these risks would be minimized with the implementation a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program.

J. Land Use and Planning

The project site is within the Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plan Area. The land use designation is Open Space, with a corresponding zoning designation of [Q] OS-1XL for the site of the proposed training facility and OS-1XL for the proposed parking area. The nearest residential community is approximately 0.4 mile away; therefore, the project would not physically divide an existing community.

The Police Academy campus consists of three city-owned parcels and two parcels owned by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club. According to City Ordinance No. 1381523 and Section 597 of the City Charter, jurisdiction over the city-owned portion of the campus was transferred to the Department of Public Works for use as public buildings and grounds, including police training facilities and related uses.

The two-lot city-owned property located on the main campus has two addresses—1880 and 1891 N. Academy Drive. The street that separates these two lots has been vacated (as shown on the county assessor's map). The main parking lot (no address assigned) is formed by two parcels—one city-owned and one non-city-owned parcel. The other non-city-owned parcel has 1855 N. Academy Drive as its address. The site of the proposed parking lot expansion in the southeastern portion of the campus does not have an address, but a tentative address of 1836 N. Malvina Avenue was assigned by the Department of Public Works/Bureau of Engineering.

The project would be fully consistent with the policies contained within the

community plan, with the exception of Policy 4.1-1, which calls for the preservation of existing recreational facilities and park space. Part of the project would entail paving a 0.35-acre landscaped area to expand a parking lot in the southeastern portion of the campus. Although the site is under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works (per Ordinance 138523) and is not designated as a park, the landscaped area, which is contiguous with the Elysian Adaptive Recreation Center, serves as an unofficial passive recreational area. The loss of this non-park owned area, compared with the entire 604-acre area of Elysian Park, would have a less-than-significant impact.

K. Mineral Resources

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A). No mineral resources have been identified in the project area.

L. Noise

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact (see Appendix A). Construction noise would be temporary; construction would comply with standard practices to minimize noise. Noise from operation of the proposed project would be minimal. The nearest sensitive receptors in the project area are approximately 0.5 mile from the site. The campus contains four shooting ranges that produce noise in the project area, but the proposed project would not generate additional noise on the Police Academy campus once construction is completed.

M. Population and Housing

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A). The project would involve construction and operation of a training facility with classrooms and offices; it would not include any housing or long-term changes in employment. Therefore, the project would not result in direct or indirect population growth.

N. Public Services

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A). The project would not induce population growth and therefore would not create an additional strain on public services.

O. Recreation

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in no impact (see Appendix A). The project would not result in an increase in population and therefore would not create additional strain on recreational resources. The project would result in the loss of approximately 0.35 acre of landscaped area, which serves as a

passive recreational area, for the purposes of providing parking. Please see the Land Use and Planning section for a discussion of this impact.

P. Transportation/Traffic

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact (see Appendix A). The project is not expected to generate any additional vehicle trips to the site. Additional parking would be provided per requirements of the Zoning Code and based on building size and not any operational activities at the Police Academy.

Q. Utilities and Service Systems

Initial screening determined that the proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact (see Appendix A). The project would involve a net increase of approximately 12,000 square feet over the square footage of the existing trailer buildings. No or minimal additional wastewater, power usage, solid waste, or stormwater runoff is expected.

R. Mandatory Findings of Significance

Given the foregoing, it has been determined that:

- The project does not have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory.
- The project does not have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable. “Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects.
- The project does not have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals.
- The project does not have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly.

V. MITIGATION MEASURES

The following describes the mitigation measures, if incorporated into the project, to reduce project effects to less than significant and briefly explains how each mitigation measure reduces the effect to a less-than-significant level (mitigation measures from earlier analyses may be cross referenced).

BIO-1 To avoid potential impacts on nesting peregrine falcons and other bird species that may nest in the direct footprint of the project, proposed project activities (including clearing and grubbing, tree removal, and disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation, structures, and substrates) shall occur outside of the avian breeding season, which generally runs from February 1 to August 31, to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) typically recommends that a qualified biologist with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys conduct a survey no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of project activities to detect protected native birds nesting in habitat that is to be disturbed and (as access to adjacent areas allows) any nests within 100 feet of the disturbance area (within 500 feet for raptors). If an active nest is located, project activities must be restricted within a 100-foot buffer of the nest (within 500 feet for raptor nests), unless otherwise approved by CDFG. The buffer will remain in place until any nests are inactive and there is no evidence of other nests in the buffer. Flagging, stakes, and/or construction fencing should be used to demarcate the boundary of the nest buffer where it overlaps the disturbance limits.

BIO-2 To avoid potential impacts on special-status bat species, the following avoidance and minimization measures shall be implemented unless otherwise authorized by CDFG:

1. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the maternity season (April 15-August 15), a qualified bat biologist will conduct a one-night emergence survey during acceptable weather conditions (no rain or high winds, night temperatures above 45˚F) or, if conditions permit, physically examine the roost for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the maternity season when young are self-sufficiently volant. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the winter months when bats are in torpor (October 31–February 15, dependent on specific weather conditions), a qualified bat biologist will physically examine the roost if conditions permit for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the winter season when bats are once again active.

2. Trees with potential colonial bat habitat (defined as trees with cavities, crevices, exfoliating bark, and bark fissures) can be removed outside of the maternity season and winter season (April 15–August 15 and October 31–February 15) using a two-step tree trimming process that occurs over two consecutive days. On Day 1, under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist, Step 1 will include branches and limbs with no cavities removed by hand (e.g., using chainsaws). This will create a disturbance (noise and vibration)

and physically alter the tree. Bats roosting in the tree will either abandon the roost immediately (rarely) or, after emergence, avoid returning to the roost. On Day 2, Step 2 of tree removal may occur (i.e., removal of the remainder of the tree). Trees that are only to be trimmed and not removed will be processed in the same manner; if a branch with a potential roost must be removed, all surrounding branches will be trimmed on Day 1 under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist and then the limb with the potential roost will be removed on Day 2.

3. Trees with foliage (and without colonial bat roost potential) that can support lasiurine bats, such as the solitary western yellow bat (the only special-status lasiurine species with the potential to occur in the project area) will have the two-step tree trimming process occur over 1 day under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist. Step 1 will be to remove adjacent, smaller, or non-habitat trees to create noise and vibration disturbance that will cause abandonment. Step 2 will be to remove the remainder of the tree on that same day.

BIO-3 The project shall comply with City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance Number 177404. If removal or relocation of the two mature planted native oak trees identified within the grading limits is determined necessary for the provision of the proposed parking area, the city's Chief Forester shall be consulted. Upon approval by the Chief Forester, each removed protected tree will be replaced with two protected trees (15-gallons or larger), with a minimum diameter of 1 inch at a point 1 foot above the ground and a height of at least 7 feet.

PR-1 Project plans will specify that if buried paleontological resources are inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work will stop in that area and within 50 feet of the find until a qualified paleontologist can assess the significance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures. Work will cease within the vicinity of the fossils so they could be recovered and removed from the site.

If fossils resources are recovered, all recovered specimens will be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates. Preparation and stabilization of all recovered fossils are essential to mitigate fully adverse impacts on the resources. All specimens will be identified as possible and curated into an established, accredited museum repository with permanent retrievable paleontologic storage. A report of findings will be prepared, including an appended itemized inventory of specimens.

GEO-1 The project will implement the recommendations offered in the November 2010 geotechnical engineering report and subsequent supplementary report(s) to minimize risks associated with building the training facility in a landslide-prone area. The recommendations include providing new retaining walls and maintaining all new slopes at a 2:1 horizontal-to-vertical run ratio (H:V), or other appropriate slope stability measures.

VI. NAME OF PREPARER

Jonathan Riker, ICF International
Rusty Whisman, ICF International

VII. DETERMINATION – RECOMMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

A. Summary

The proposed project would involve the construction and operation of a split-level 24,000-square-foot training facility on the campus of the Police Academy in the Elysian Park hills. The project would also include the expansion of an existing parking lot in the southeastern portion of the campus, per code requirements. The project would provide a permanent training facility, complete with flexible classroom space, offices, and storage areas, for training police recruits and in-service officers.

Initial screening determined the potential for significant environmental impacts under CEQA to the following:

- Archaeological and paleontological resources,
- Biological resources, and
- Geological conditions.

However, with the implementation of mitigation measures specified above, the environmental impact would be considered less than significant.

B. Recommended Environmental Documentation

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

I find that although the proposed project may result in significant impacts on the environment, there will not be a significant impact in this case because mitigation measures will be implemented to reduce potential impacts to levels that are less than significant. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.

Prepared By: 
Jonathan Riker
ICF International

Approved By: Gary Lee Moore, P.E.
City Engineer

(signature on original)
By: _____
James E. Doty
Environmental Affairs Officer
Environmental Management Group

APPENDICES

Appendix A, Environmental Screening Checklist

VIII. REFERENCES:

The following sources were used in the preparation of this document. Sources not available via the Internet are available for review by appointment at the offices of the Bureau of Engineering, 1149 S. Broadway, Suite 600, Los Angeles, California.

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APPENDIX A

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING CHECKLIST

A brief explanation is provided for all answers, except "no impact" answers that are adequately supported by the sources cited following each question. A no impact answer is adequately supported if the referenced sources show that the impact simply does not apply to the project (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A no impact answer should be explained if it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
1. AESTHETICS – Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to introduce incompatible visual elements within a field of view containing a scenic vista or substantially alter a view of a scenic vista. Reference: 19 (Thresholds A.1 & A.2)				
Explanation: The project area is located in the Elysian Park hills, which offer scenic views from higher elevations. However, the Police Academy campus is not located at a high point that offers such views. The project site is located on a gentle, south-facing slope tucked between hillsides to the east and west. The campus contains mature trees, which would largely obscure views of the proposed training facility from Academy Road. The proposed building would be no larger than 42 feet in height, which is taller than the existing one-story trailer building on the site, but is within the height limits mandated by the Zoning Code and would not physically obscure a scenic vista. The paving of 0.35 acre of landscaped area in the southeastern portion of the campus would also not alter any scenic vistas. No impact would occur as a result of the project.				
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur in areas where scenic resources within a state scenic highway are damaged or removed as a result of the proposed project. Reference: 23 (Thresholds A.1 & E.3), 19 (General Plan)				
Explanation: There are no state-designated scenic highways located within the vicinity of the project site. The training facility would replace existing one-story trailers on the site and would not obscure views of trees, rock outcroppings, historic buildings, or other scenic resources. No impact would occur as a result of the project. Reference: 14 (Caltrans)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to introduce incompatible visual elements to the project site or visual elements that would be incompatible with the character of the area surrounding the project site. Reference: 23 (Thresholds A.1 and A.3)				
Explanation: The project area contains historic and potentially historic resources, as indicated below in the discussion for Item 5(a). The proposed training facility and expanded parking lot would not make any changes to these resources and would be aesthetically compatible with the general visual character of the campus. No impact would occur.				
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact would occur if the proposed project were to cause a substantial increase in ambient illumination levels beyond the property line or new lighting to spill over onto light-sensitive land uses such as residential uses, some commercial and institutional uses that require minimum illumination for proper function, and natural areas. Reference: 23 (Threshold A.4)				
Explanation: Construction of the proposed project would not occur at night and would therefore not require the use of outdoor lighting. Outdoor lighting would be used for building operation but would be limited to the minimum levels necessary for safety. The new light fixtures would be designed to prevent spill-over. The project site is surrounded by the natural hillsides of Elysian Park. Lighting would be contained in the area immediately surrounding the training facility and would not generate excessive outdoor lighting. No new lighting would be installed for illuminating the proposed expansion of the parking area. There are no light-sensitive land uses adjacent to the project. No impact related to lighting would occur.				
2. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: In determining whether impacts on agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Reference: 15) A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in the conversion of state-designated agricultural land from agricultural use to a non-agricultural use. Reference: 4 (Ag. Land Eval.)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The project site is not zoned for and does not contain agricultural uses. The City of Los Angeles does not participate in the Williamson Act and therefore has no Williamson Act properties within its boundaries. No impact would occur as a result of construction or operation of the proposed training facility. Reference: 8 (Farmland Map)				
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in the conversion of land zoned for agricultural use or under a Williamson Act contract from agricultural use to a non-agricultural use.				
Explanation: The project site and adjacent parcels are not zoned for agricultural uses and are not under a Williamson Act contract. No impact would result from construction or operation of the proposed training facility.				
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forestland (as defined in Public Resources Code Section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code Section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code Section 51104(g))?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: In determining whether impacts on forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forestland, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project, and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in the Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board (CARB).				
Explanation: The proposed project site is a developed campus located in the Elysian Park hills. There is no forestland, timberland, or timberland zoned for Timberland Production on or near the project site, as defined in Public Resources Code Sections 12220(g), 4526, or 51104(g). No impact on forestland or timberland would occur as a result of construction or operation of the proposed project. Reference: 11 (BIOS)				
d) Result in the loss of forestland or conversion of forestland to non-forest use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: In determining whether impacts on forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forestland, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project, and the forest carbon measurement methodology provided in the Forest Protocols adopted by CARB.				
Explanation: Refer to the discussion for Item 2(c), above. No loss or conversion of forestland would occur as a result of construction or operation of the proposed project. No impact would occur. Reference: 11 (BIOS)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment that, because of their location or nature, could result in the conversion of farmland to non-agricultural use?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if a project results in the conversion of farmland to a non-agricultural use.				
Explanation: Refer to the discussion under Items 2 (a) and 2 (b), above. No impact would occur.				
3. AIR QUALITY – Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project is inconsistent with or obstructs implementation of the Air Quality Element of the city's general plan or the Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP). Reference: 23 (Thresholds B.1 to B.3), 34 (AQMD Handbook)				

Explanation:

The proposed project would result in no impact**.** The project site is located within the Los Angeles County portion of the South Coast Air Basin (Basin). The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) is required, pursuant to the federal Clean Air Act, to reduce emissions of criteria pollutants for which the Basin is in nonattainment (i.e., ozone, particulate matter 10 micrometers in diameter or less and 2.5 micrometers in diameter or less [PM10 and PM2.5, respectively], and lead). As such, the project would be subject to SCAQMD's AQMP. The 2007 AQMP contains a comprehensive list of pollution control strategies to reduce emissions and achieve ambient air quality standards. These strategies are based, in part, on regional population, housing, and employment projections prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG).

SCAG is the regional planning agency for Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Imperial Counties. It addresses regional issues related to transportation, economy, community development, and the environment. With regard to air quality planning, SCAG has prepared the Regional Comprehensive Plan and Guide (RCPG), which includes Growth Management and Regional Mobility chapters that form the basis for the land use and transportation control portions of the AQMP. These documents are utilized in the preparation of the air quality forecasts and consistency analysis included in the AQMP. Both the RCPG and AQMP are based, in part, on projections originating with county and city General Plans.

The physical changes to the environment proposed by the project would involve site work and construction of Police Academy facilities; however, there would be no permanent increase in population or the number of permanent new employees in the area due to project development. The project is also consistent with the city's General Plan designation and zoning.

Because the project is consistent with the local general plan and the Regional Growth Management Plan, pursuant to SCAQMD guidelines, the proposed project is considered consistent with the region's AQMP. As such, proposed project-related emissions are accounted for in the AQMP, which is crafted to bring the Basin into attainment for all criteria pollutants. No impacts would occur, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to violate any SCAQMD air quality standard. SCAQMD has set thresholds of significance for reactive organic gases (ROG), nitrogen oxides (NO_X), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide ($S0_2$), and PM10 emissions resulting from construction and operation in the Basin.

Reference: 19 (Thresholds B.1, B.2), 34 (AQMD Handbook)

Explanation:

Impacts would be less than significant. As discussed above, the project site is located within the Basin. State and federal air quality standards are often exceeded in many parts of the Basin. The proposed project would contribute to regional air pollutant emissions during construction (short term) and project occupancy (long term). A discussion of the project's potential construction- and operations-period air quality impacts is provided below.

Construction Impacts

SCAQMD has established methodologies to quantify air emissions associated with construction activities, such as pollutant emissions generated by operation of on-site construction equipment, fugitive dust emissions related to site-disturbance activities, and mobile (tailpipe) emissions from construction workers' vehicles and haul/delivery truck trips. Emissions would vary from day to day, depending on the level of activity, the specific type of construction activity occurring, and, for fugitive dust, prevailing weather conditions.

With respect to the proposed project, construction activities, which are expected to extend over a period of approximately 18 months, would include the following emissions sources:

1. Combustion emissions from operating on-site construction equipment,
2. Fugitive dust emissions related to site disturbance activity, and
3. Mobile-source emissions related to trips by construction workers while commuting.

Emissions were estimated using the CalEEMod emissions inventory model. A conservative estimate of the project's regional mass emissions during construction is presented in Table 1 in Section IV. As shown therein, all criteria pollutant emissions would remain below their respective thresholds. Thus, impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation is required.

Operational Impacts

Operations-period air pollutant emissions are generally a function of new project-related trip generation. With respect to the proposed project, no new project-related trips are anticipated. As such, no net-new emissions are anticipated. Potential impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is in non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions that exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in a cumulatively considerable net increase in a criteria pollutant for which the Basin exceeds federal and state ambient air quality standards, resulting in its designation as an area of non-attainment by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and/or CARB. The Basin (Los Angeles County portion) is a non-attainment area for ozone, lead, PM10, and PM2.5. Reference: 23 (Thresholds B.1, B.2), 34 (AQMD Handbook)				
Explanation: The project would result in a less-than-significant impact. SCAQMD's approach for assessing cumulative impacts is based on the AQMP forecasts of attainment of ambient air quality standards, in accordance with the requirements of the federal and state Clean Air Acts. As discussed earlier in Item 3(a), the proposed project would be consistent with the AQMP, which is intended to bring the Basin into attainment for all criteria pollutants. In addition, the mass regional emissions calculated for the proposed project are less than the applicable SCAQMD daily significance thresholds, which are designed to help the region attain the applicable state and national ambient air quality standards. As such, cumulative impacts would be less than significant. No mitigation measures are required.				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if construction or operation of the proposed project were to generate pollutant concentrations to a degree that would significantly affect sensitive receptors. Reference: 23 (Thresholds B.1 to B.3)				
Explanation: The proposed project would result in a less-than-significant impact. As described in the discussion for Item 3(b), above, construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in any substantial localized or regional air pollution impacts and therefore would not expose any nearby sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations. Potential impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are necessary.				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project creates an objectionable odor at the nearest sensitive receptor. Reference: 23 (Thresholds B.1 & B.2)				
Explanation: During construction, potential sources of odor are diesel emissions from construction equipment and volatile organic compounds used for sealant applications or paving. However, odors would be temporary and localized. Nonetheless, applicable best management practices, such as those in SCAQMD Rule 431 (Diesel Equipment) would, in addition to minimizing air quality impacts, help to minimize potential construction odors. The impact of the proposed project is less than significant. According to the SCAQMD *CEQA Air Quality Handbook,* land uses associated with odor complaints typically include agricultural uses, wastewater				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact

treatment plants, food processing plants, chemical plants, composting areas, refineries, landfills, dairies, and fiberglass molding facilities. The proposed project does not include any of the types of uses identified by SCAQMD as being associated with odor complaints. Furthermore, it is not anticipated that the project would create adverse odors. Potential impacts would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are necessary.

4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES – Would the project:

a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☒	☐	☐

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to remove or modify habitat for any species identified or designated as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations or by the state or federal regulatory agencies cited.

Reference: 23 (Threshold C)

Explanation:

The study area is located within the City of Los Angeles on the existing campus of the Police Academy. Topographically, the site of the proposed training facility is approximately 640 feet above mean sea level (amsl), and the parking lot in the southern portion of the campus is approximately 565 amsl. The northern portion of the study area is vegetated with mostly a nonnative woodland cover, with some occasional shrubs. The following nonnative and introduced plant species were observed during the site visit: golden waddle (*Acacia longifolia*), California fan palm (*Washingtonia filifera*) (native—but not to the site), Canary Island date palm (*Phoenix canariensis*), Canary Island pine (*Pinus canariensis*), Aleppo pine (*Pinus halepensis*), Chinese elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*), Peruvian pepper tree (*Schinus molle*), olive (*Olea europaea*), spineless yucca (*Yucca elephantipes*), giant bird of paradise (*Strelitzia Nicolai*), edible loquat (*Eriobotyra japonica*), silk oak (*Grevillea robusta*), jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), weeping bottlebrush (*Callistemon viminalis*), and red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*). The southern portion of the study area is vegetated with turf and associated landscaping, with the following nonnative or introduced plant species observed: sweetgum (*Liquidamber styraciflua*), goldenrain tree (*Koelreuteria paniculata*), Brazilian pepper tree (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), Nuttall's oak (*Quercus texana*), Crape myrtle (*Lagerstroemia* sp.), Italian stone pine (*Pinus pinea*), and ginkgo (*Ginkgo biloba*). In addition, two native tree species were observed (planted individuals for the purpose of landscaping): coast live oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) and Engelmann's oak (*Quercus engelmanni*).

The land use immediately surrounding the study area is the campus of the Police Academy, which consists of mostly developed areas surrounded by landscaped borders with nonnative ornamental plant species. The study area is northwest of Dodger Stadium and its parking areas. City parks and roadways also surround the study area.

Wildlife species observed during the site visit included western fence lizard (*Sceloporus occidentalis*), mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*), rock pigeon (*Columba livia*), northern rough-winged swallow (*Stelgidopteryx serripennis*), Cassin's kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), common raven (*Corvus corax*), bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*), northern mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos*), California towhee (*Pipilo crissalis*), house finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*), peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), and California ground squirrel (*Spermophilus beecheyi*).

The literature review and the habitat assessment indicate that suitable habitat is not present for any threatened or endangered species, and none are expected to occur within the study area. During the site visit, a Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), a state fully protected species when nesting, was observed in the study area. It most likely uses this area for foraging. Potential nesting habitat exists within the study

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact

area because this species is known to nest on buildings, bridges, and transmission towers. The plant communities present in the study area are not expected to support any other non-listed special-status plant and wildlife species. Throughout the study area, the potential exists for nesting birds. However, with the implementation of the measures listed below, impacts would be less than significant.

BIO-1 To avoid potential impacts on nesting peregrine falcon and other bird species that may nest in the direct footprint of the project, proposed project activities (including, but not limited to, clearing and grubbing, tree removal, and disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation, structures, and substrates) shall occur outside of the avian breeding season, which generally runs from February 1 to August 31, to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, CDFG typically recommends that a qualified biologist with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys conduct a survey no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of project activities to detect protected native birds nesting in habitat that is to be disturbed and (as access to adjacent areas allows) any nests within 100 feet of the disturbance area (within 500 feet for raptors). If an active nest is located, project activities must be restricted within a 100-foot buffer of the nest (within 500 feet for raptor nests), unless otherwise approved by CDFG. The buffer will remain in place until any nests are inactive and there is no evidence of other nests in the buffer. Flagging, stakes, and/or construction fencing should be used to demarcate the boundary of the nest buffer where it overlaps the disturbance limits.

BIO-2 To avoid potential impacts on special-status bat species, the following avoidance and minimization measures shall be implemented unless otherwise authorized by CDFG.

1. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the maternity season (April 15-August 15), a qualified bat biologist will conduct a one-night emergence survey during acceptable weather conditions (no rain or high winds, night temperatures above 45˚F) or, if conditions permit, physically examine the roost for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the maternity season when young are self-sufficiently volant. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the winter months when bats are in torpor (October 31–February 15, dependent on specific weather conditions), a qualified bat biologist will physically examine the roost if conditions permit for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the winter season when bats are once again active.
2. Trees with potential colonial bat habitat (defined as trees with cavities, crevices, exfoliating bark, and bark fissures) can be removed outside of the maternity season and winter season (April 15–August 15 and October 31–February 15) using a two-step tree trimming process that occurs over 2 consecutive days. On Day 1, under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist, Step 1 will include branches and limbs with no cavities removed by hand (e.g., using chainsaws). This will create a disturbance (noise and vibration) and physically alter the tree. Bats roosting in the tree will either abandon the roost immediately (rarely) or, after emergence, avoid returning to the roost. On Day 2, Step 2 of tree removal may occur (i.e., removal of the remainder of the tree). Trees that are only to be trimmed and not removed will be processed in the same manner; if a branch with a potential roost must be removed, all surrounding branches will be trimmed on Day 1 under supervision of a qualified bat biologist and then the limb with the potential roost will be removed on Day 2.
3. Trees with foliage (and without colonial bat roost potential) that can support lasiurine bats, such as the solitary western yellow bat (the only special-status lasiurine species with the potential to occur in the project area), will have the two-step tree trimming process occur over 1 day under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist. Step 1 will be to remove adjacent, smaller, or non-habitat trees to create noise and vibration disturbance that would cause abandonment. Step 2 will be to remove the remainder of the tree on that same day.

Reference: 9 (CNDDB), 11 (BIOS). See discussion in Section IV.

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, and regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if riparian habitat or any other sensitive natural community is adversely modified. Reference: 23 (Threshold C)				
Explanation: No riparian habitat or other sensitive natural communities were identified as being present within the study area. No impact would occur. Reference: 9 (CNDDB), 11 (BIOS), 35 (Wetlands Map)				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.), through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if federally protected wetlands, as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, are modified or removed. Reference: 23 (Threshold C), 35 (Wetlands Map)				
Explanation: No federally protected wetlands or other features potentially under CDFG, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, or Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdiction were identified within the study area. No impact would occur. Reference: (Wetlands Map)				
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or the use of established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to interfere with or remove access to a migratory wildlife corridor or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites. Reference: 11 (BIOS), 23 (Threshold C)				
Explanation: The study area is not located with an area that would allow wildlife movement or function as a wildlife corridor. Although nonnative woodlands and other vegetative cover types are present, the study area is surrounded by roadways and development and not connected to areas of open space. No impact would occur.				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	☐	☒	☐	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be inconsistent with local regulations pertaining to biological resources. Reference: 11 (CNDDB), 28 (Tree Policy), 29 (Urban Forest Program), 23 (Threshold C)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: During the site visit, two mature planted native oak trees (a coast live oak and an Engelmann's oak) were observed, and recorded, just inside the grading limits of the proposed parking area. These trees exceed the size requirement for preservation under City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance Number 177404 (i.e., a trunk width at 4.5 feet high of 4 inches or more). Impacts would be less than significant with the implementation of the measure below. **BIO-3** The project shall comply with City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance Number 177404. If removal or relocation of the two mature planted native oak trees identified within the grading limits is determined necessary for the provision of the proposed parking area, the city's Chief Forester shall be consulted. Upon approval by the Chief Forester, each removed protected tree will be replaced with two protected trees (15-gallons or larger), with a minimum diameter of 1 inch at a point 1 foot above the ground and a height of at least 7 feet. Reference: 18 (Tree Ord.), 28 (Tree Policy), 27 (NavigateLA)				
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be inconsistent with mapping or policies in any conservation plans of the cited type. Reference: 9 (CNDDB), 23 (Thresholds C)				
Explanation: No adopted habitat conservation plan, natural community conservation plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan overlaps the study area. No impact would occur.				
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource, as defined in California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may result if the proposed project were to cause a substantial adverse change to the significance of a historical resource (as identified above). Reference: 15 (CEQA Guideline 15064.5), 23 (Threshold D.3), 12 (CHRIS)				
Explanation: In accordance with Section 15064.5(a)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines, which states that properties included in a local register of historical resources or identified in a historical resource survey shall be presumed to be historically or culturally significant, several buildings on the Police Academy campus are considered historical resources. In addition, the City of Los Angeles maintains a local register of historical resources called Historic-Cultural Monuments (HCM). The Academy's rock garden and clubhouse were declared HCM 110 on January 17, 1973, and all of the components are historical resources under CEQA. In 1992, a historical resource survey of the Police Academy was conducted for an environmental impact report. Those buildings identified as significant are considered historical resources under CEQA. The Academy entrance was found to be potentially eligible at a local level of significance, and the central courtyard was found to be noteworthy as a landscape feature. The Academy entrance, administration/gymnasium building, rock garden, and pistol range were all found potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The trailers and tennis court that would be replaced by the proposed project are not listed, nor are they eligible for listing at the state, local, or federal level.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact

The proposed training facility would be located across from the administration/gymnasium building, rock garden, and clubhouse but would not alter any of the historic structures on the campus. In addition, mature trees and other foliage between the historical resources and the proposed project site would shield views toward the project site. Consequently, the proposed training facility is not anticipated to result in significant impacts on the historic buildings on the campus.

The rock walls, which were constructed by prisoner labor, are unique to the site and would most likely be considered historical resources upon historic evaluation. The rock walls border the main driveway through the campus and range in height from ground level to more than 8 feet, depending on the steepness of the hillside. The walls are composed of broken concrete "bricks," with borders made from darker bricks. Several of the walls incorporate large squares of hand-formed concrete with patterned indentations.

The project would involve removal of the wall directly adjacent to the proposed training facility. The material would be saved and reused where appropriate.

The quality of the rock walls at the northern end of the access road is somewhat less refined compared with the walls at the southern end of the drive, which may reflect a later date of construction. Because most of the rock walls would remain, and considering the condition of the northern portion of the west wall, which would be removed, removal to accommodate the training facility would constitute a less-than-significant impact.

Removal of the trailers located in the southeastern portion of the campus would not affect any of the on-site historical resources. Given the proximity of the proposed project to historic structures, construction would be carried out in a context-sensitive manner. Impacts would be less than significant.

b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to California Code of Regulations Section 15064.5?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource that falls under the State CEQA Guidelines section cited above.

Reference: 15 (Guidelines 15064.5), 23 (Threshold D.2), 12 (CHRIS)

Explanation:

There are no known cultural or archaeological resources in the immediate project area. However, during construction and excavation, workers could come into contact with previously undiscovered cultural or archaeological resources. As required by current California law and City standards, the project plans will specify that if buried cultural or archaeological resources, such as flaked or ground stone, historic debris, building foundations, or non-human bone, are inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work will stop in that area and within 100 feet of the find until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures. Treatment measures typically include development of avoidance strategies, capping with fill material, or mitigation of impacts through data recovery programs such as excavation or detailed documentation.

If cultural resources are discovered during construction activities, the construction contractor will verify that work is halted until appropriate site-specific treatment measures, such as those listed above, are implemented.

If human remains of Native American origin are discovered during ground-disturbing activities, it will be necessary to comply with state laws related to Native American burials, which fall within the jurisdiction of the California Native American Heritage Commission (Public Resources Code Section 5097). According to California Health and Safety Code, six or more human burials at one location constitute a cemetery (Section 8100), and disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony (Section 7052). Section 7050.5 requires excavation to be stopped in the vicinity of discovered human remains until the coroner can

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
determine whether the remains are those of a Native American. If the remains are determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the California Native American Heritage Commission to determine the most likely living descendant(s). The most likely living descendant shall determine the most appropriate means of treating the human remains and any associated grave artifacts and shall oversee disposition of the human remains and associated artifacts by the project archaeologists. Therefore, the project will have a less-than-significant impact on archaeological and cultural resources.				
c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	☐	☒	☐	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if grading or excavation activities associated with the proposed project were to disturb unique paleontological resources or unique geologic features. Reference: 15 (Guideline 15064.5), 23 (Threshold D.1), 12 (CHRIS), 22 (ZIMAS)				
Explanation: The proposed project area has been disturbed by grading in the past. The potential for discovery of paleontological resources during construction of the proposed project is considered low; however, significant buried paleontological resources may exist within the project area. If paleontological resources are discovered during construction, Mitigation Measure PR-1, below, would reduce impacts associated with the proposed project to a less-than-significant level. **PR-1** Project plans will specify that if buried paleontological resources are inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work will stop in that area and within 50 feet of the find until a qualified paleontologist can assess the significance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures. Work will cease within the vicinity of the fossils so they could be recovered and removed from the site. If fossils resources are recovered, all recovered specimens will be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates. Preparation and stabilization of all recovered fossils are essential to mitigate fully adverse impacts on the resources. All specimens will be identified as possible and curated into an established, accredited museum repository with permanent retrievable paleontologic storage. A report of findings will be prepared, including an appended itemized inventory of specimens.				
d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if grading or excavation activities associated with the proposed project were to disturb interred human remains. Reference: 15 (CEQA Guideline 15064.5), 23 (Threshold D.2), 12 (CHRIS)				
Explanation: No known burial sites are located within the project area. However, project activities will follow relevant provisions of California law and regulations in addition to City requirements and standards and therefore, impacts would be less than significant. Please see the discussion for Item 5(b) above.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS – Would the project:				
a) Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located within a state-designated Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone or other designated fault zone and appropriate building practices were not followed. References: 7 (CDC Publ. 42), 23 (Threshold E.1)				
Explanation: The project site is not located in an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone; however, it is located 0.15 mile from the Elysian Park thrust fault, part of the blind thrusts that underlie Los Angeles. The training facility would comply with building code requirements. Therefore, risks would be minimized. Impacts related to project proximity to an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone would be less than significant.				
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project design were to fail to comply with building code requirements intended to protect people from hazards associated with strong seismic ground shaking. Reference: 6 (Seismic Hazard Map Los Angeles Quad.), 23 (Threshold E.1)				
Explanation: The project site is located in a seismically active region that would be susceptible to ground shaking. Despite the fact that the project site is not located in an Alquist-Priolo Fault Zone, it is near the Elysian Park thrust fault, as indicated in the discussion from Item 6(a)(i), above, and seismic ground shaking is a regional reality. There is no realistic way to avoid such hazards entirely. However, the risks to construction and operation of the training facility at the proposed location posed by seismic ground shaking would be no greater than risks at other sites in the vicinity. The proposed project would involve the construction of a new 24,000-square-foot training facility, which would replace the existing trailers and tennis court. In addition, the project would expand the parking lot in the southeastern portion of the campus and remove or relocate trailers. The training facility would be designed by California-licensed professional civil and structural engineers, and the construction work would be performed by licensed professional contractors who would comply with the safety standards required to reduce the risk of seismic hazards. Designs and plans would also require reviews and permits per local, state, and federal laws. Thus, impacts related to seismic ground shaking would be considered less than significant.				
iii) Seismically related ground failure, including liquefaction?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located in an area identified as having a high risk of liquefaction and appropriate design measures required within such designated areas were not incorporated into the project. Reference: 6 (Seismic Hazard Map Los Angeles Quad.), 23 (Thresholds E.1)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The project site is not located in an area identified by the California Geological Survey as being susceptible to liquefaction. Therefore, construction and operation of the proposed project would result in no impact.				
iv) Landslides?	☐	☒	☐	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located in a hillside area with soil conditions that would suggest a high potential for sliding and appropriate design measures were not implemented. Reference: 6 (Seismic Hazard Map Los Angeles Quad.), 23 (Threshold E.1)				
Explanation: The project site is located in the Elysian Park hills, an area identified by the California Geological Survey as susceptible to earthquake-induced landslides or permanent ground displacements. The Geotechnical Engineering Group of the Bureau of Engineering prepared a geotechnical engineering report (November 2010) as a standard practice, which prescribes methods, techniques, and specifications for site preparation, treatment of undocumented fill and/or alluvial soils, fill placement on sloping ground, fill characteristics, fill placement and compaction, temporary excavations and shoring, permanent slopes, treatment of expansive soils, and treatment of corrosive soils. Design and construction of the proposed project would conform to recommendations in the geotechnical evaluation. Therefore, impacts from potentially expansive soil would be less than significant with implementation of the mitigation measure below. **GEO-1** The project will implement the recommendations offered in the November 2010 geotechnical engineering report and subsequent supplementary report(s) to minimize risks associated with building the training facility in a landslide-prone area. The recommendations include providing new retaining walls and maintaining all new slopes at a 2:1 horizontal-to-vertical run ratio (H:V), or other appropriate soil stability measures.				
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to expose large areas to the erosional effects of wind or water for a prolonged period of time. Reference: 23 (Threshold E.2)				
Explanation: The project site is located in a depression between two sets of hills. It is mostly paved, except for the slopes surrounding the site. The project would involve the construction of a 24,000-square-foot training facility that would replace the trailers and tennis court that currently occupy the space. In addition, the project would involve paving landscaped areas in the southeastern portion of the Police Academy campus to provide parking. The training facility would be integrated into the terraced hillside on the western side of the site. It would not denude the hillside beyond what is required for construction of the building. Construction would include ground-disturbing activities, such as grading and excavation. These activities may result in topsoil erosion at the project site. However, given the 16-month duration of construction, soil exposure would be temporary, and applicable Department of Building and Safety erosion control techniques would limit potential erosion. All construction activities would comply with best management practices (BMPs) to				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
prevent erosion or loss of topsoil to wind. In accordance with standard specifications for public works construction and building code requirements, the proposed project would implement a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for erosion and sedimentation control. Construction BMPs would also be implemented to control runoff and erosion from earthmoving activities. Implementation of such control measures would prevent substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil at exposed sites. Following the completion of construction, exposed topsoil areas adjacent to the training facility would be revegetated to stabilize hillside soils. The parking lot would be impervious, and there would be no large areas of exposed soil. As such, construction and operation of the project would have less-than-significant impacts related to the loss of topsoil.				
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	☐	☒	☐	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be built in an unstable area and without proper site preparation or design features, such as adequate foundations for project buildings, thereby posing a hazard to life and property. Reference: 6 (Seismic Hazard Map Los Angeles Quad.), 23 (Threshold E.2)				
Explanation: The November 2010 geotechnical engineering report states that the potential for lateral spreading of the project area is low given the materials encountered from borings and consideration of current and historic groundwater levels. Please see the discussion for Items 6(a)(iii) and (iv), above, regarding landslides and liquefaction. With implementation of mitigation measure GEO-1, impacts related to landslides would be less than significant.				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: Not addressed in local CEQA thresholds.				
Explanation: The proposed project is in an area identified as being composed of upper Miocene marine sedimentary and metasedimentary rocks (the Miocene Epoch lasted from 23 to 5.3 million years ago). The area has not been designated as an area with recent alluvial deposits, according to the Safety Element of the city's general plan. Prior to any construction, and as standard practice, the recommendations contained in the November 2010 geotechnical engineering report would be carried out (see measure GEO-1, above). The recommendations include methods, techniques, and specifications for site preparation, treatment of undocumented fill and/or alluvial soils, fill placement on sloping ground, fill characteristics, fill placement and compaction, temporary excavations and shoring, permanent slopes, treatment of expansive soils, and treatment of corrosive soils. Design and construction of the proposed project would conform to recommendations in the geotechnical evaluation. Therefore, impacts from potentially expansive soil would be less than significant. Reference: 23 (Threshold E.2), 5 (Geol Map LA)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
e) Have soils that are incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be built on soils that would be incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems, if such systems are proposed. Reference: 23 (Threshold E.3)				
Explanation: The Police Academy campus is served by the city's wastewater collection, conveyance, and treatment systems. The proposed project would not require the use of septic tanks or an alternative wastewater disposal system. Therefore, no impact would occur. Reference: 27 (NavigateLA)				
7. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS – Would the project:				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if a non-industrial development project emits greater than 3,000 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent. Reference: SCAQMD Interim CEQA GHG Guidance				
Explanation: Construction of the proposed project would generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, which would come from on-site heavy-duty construction equipment, off-site vehicle trips made by construction workers, as well as haul/delivery trucks as they travel to and from the project site. Mobile-source emissions would result from the use of construction equipment, such as graders, scrapers, bulldozers, and wheeled loaders. Construction-period GHG emissions were estimated using the CalEEMod land use emissions estimation model, which estimated GHG emissions during construction to be as high as 234 metric tons total (see the CalEEMod output sheets in the air quality appendix). To put this number into perspective, statewide CO_2 equivalent (CO_2e) emissions for 2006 were estimated to be 479.8 million metric tons (MMT). Operations-period GHG emissions would largely be a function of new project-related trip generation. With respect to the proposed project, no new project-related trips are anticipated. As such, net new GHG emissions would be a function of the site's marginal increase in water and energy use, which CalEEMod estimates to be 206 metric tons per annum. For CEQA evaluation purposes, SCAQMD recommends amortizing construction-period GHG emissions over a 30-year period. Under this approach, annual GHG emissions would be 214 metric tons (construction and operations combined). Considering the comparatively small volume of estimated emissions for this project and the limited duration, project GHG emissions are deemed negligible at both a project level and a cumulative level. The proposed project's emissions, alone or in combination with global emissions, would not be enough to cause substantial climate change. Project impacts relative to GHG emissions and climate change would be less than significant, and no mitigation measures are necessary.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
b) Conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project violates any applicable agency plan, policy, or regulation related to greenhouse gases.

Explanation:

Assembly Bill (AB) 32 identified a 2020 target level of 427 MMT of CO_2e for GHG emissions in California, which is approximately 28.5% less than the 2020 business-as-usual (BAU) emissions estimate of 596 MMT CO_2e. To achieve these GHG reductions, there will have to be widespread reductions in GHG emissions across California. Some of these reductions will need to come in the form of changes in vehicle emissions and mileage standards, changes in the sources of electricity, and increases in energy efficiency by existing facilities. The remainder will need to come from requiring new facility development to have lower carbon intensity than BAU conditions. Therefore, this analysis uses a threshold of significance that is in conformance with the state's goals.

On December 12, 2008, CARB adopted the AB 32 Scoping Plan, which details specific GHG emission-reduction measures that target specific GHG emissions sources. Although none of the scoping plan measures are applicable to the proposed project, nevertheless, project-related GHG emissions would be reduced as a result of several AB 32 Scoping Plan measures. The scoping plan considers a range of actions that include direct regulations, alternative compliance mechanisms, monetary and non-monetary incentives, voluntary actions, and market-based mechanisms (e.g., cap-and-trade system). Some examples include the following:

- Mobile-source GHG emissions reduction measures
  - Pavley emissions standards (19.8% reduction)
  - Low-carbon fuel standard (7.2% reduction)
  - Vehicle efficiency measures (2.8% reduction)
- Energy production-related GHG emissions-reduction measures
  - Natural gas transmission and distribution efficiency measures (7.4% reduction)
  - Natural gas extraction efficiency measures (1.6% reduction)
  - Renewables (electricity) portfolio standard (33.0% reduction)

These measures would reduce project-specific GHG emissions related to energy consumption and water use by 10% and 20%, respectively. Overall, the proposed project would not conflict with the AB 32 goal of reducing statewide GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, policy, or regulation of an agency adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of GHGs; therefore, impacts would be less than significant.

8. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS – Would the project:

a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to involve the use or disposal of hazardous materials as part of routine operations and have the potential to generate toxic or otherwise hazardous emissions.

Reference: 23 (Thresholds F.1, F.2)

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The proposed project would involve the construction and operation of a training facility for police officers and recruits as well as the creation of a new parking area. It would not involve the routine use, transport, or disposal of any hazardous materials. During construction, hazardous materials, including petroleum fuels and oils for construction equipment, would be used. The release of these materials could occur through spills or from runoff during storm events; however, with adherence to applicable regulations, such occurrences would not pose a substantial risk. Any development would comply with applicable laws and regulations related to the use, transport, or disposal of hazardous materials. No impact would occur as a result of operation of the project.				
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to involve a risk of accidental explosion or use substantial amounts of hazardous materials as part of its routine operations that could pose a hazard to the public under accident or upset conditions. Reference: 16 (GeoTracker), 17 (LAMC), 23 (Thresholds F.1, F.2)				
Explanation: The proposed project would not involve the use, transport, or disposal of any hazardous materials. No impact would occur. Please refer to the discussion for Item 7(a), above.				
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located within 0.25 mile of an existing or proposed school site and projected to release toxic emissions that would pose a hazard beyond regulatory thresholds. Reference: 23 (Threshold F.2)				
Explanation: There is no school within 0.25 mile of the project site. The closest school is Elysian Heights Elementary School, which is approximately 0.6 mile from the project site. The project site does not contain hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste. Construction and operation of the project would not involve substantial quantities of hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste. No impact would occur. Reference: 16 (GeoTracker), 13 (EnviroStor), 27 (NavigateLA)				
d) Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project would introduce or directly modify pipelines carrying hazardous or explosive substances, subterranean storage fields or above ground tanks, solid waste facilities, wastewater treatment plants, or other facilities that handle hazardous materials. A significant impact may also occur if the project would locate people adjacent to a health hazard or if the project would create a health hazard by disturbing, removing, or disposing of asbestos-containing materials or lead paints. Reference: 23 (Threshold F.2)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The project site is not listed in the State Water Resources Control Board's GeoTracker system, which includes sites with leaking underground fuel storage tanks as well as locations that are a part of the Site Cleanup Program (formerly known as the Spills, Leaks, Investigation, Cleanup Program, or SLIC). The project site is also not listed in the Department of Toxic Substances Control's EnviroStor Data Management System and is also not on the Hazardous Waste and Substances List (i.e., Cortese List). The project site is also not listed in the federal EPA's Facility Registry System. No impact would occur as a result of construction and operation of the project on the site. Reference: 16 (GeoTracker), 13 (EnviroStor), 37 (EPA Registry)				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project site were to be located within an airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport, thereby creating a safety hazard. Reference: 23 (Thresholds F.1, K.2)				
Explanation: The project is not located within a airport land use plan or within 2 miles of a public airport. Construction and operation of the proposed training facility and parking lot would not pose a safety hazard with respect to air traffic. No impact would occur. Reference: 22 (ZIMAS), 27 (NavigateLA)				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project were to result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area because of its location near a private airstrip. Reference: 23 (Thresholds F.1, K.2)				
Explanation: No private airstrip is located within the vicinity of the project site. No impact would occur as a result of construction or operation of the project. Reference: 27 (NavigateLA)				
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to interfere substantially with roadways used in conjunction with an emergency response plan or evacuation plan or generate enough traffic to create congestion that would interfere with the execution of such a plan. Reference: 23 (Thresholds F.1, K.2)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The proposed project would not alter the adjacent street system. As applicable, any traffic detour plans during construction would address emergency response or emergency evacuation. No impact on emergency services would occur as a result of construction of the project. With respect to operation, the project would be located on the grounds of the Police Academy. A large number of police personnel would be present; therefore, emergency response from the LAPD is not a concern. Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) access would not be hindered by the proposed training facility or parking lot. No impact on emergency response would result from operation of the proposed training facility and parking lot.				
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires, including in areas where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located in a wildland area and pose a significant fire hazard that could affect persons or structures in the area in the event of a fire. Reference: 23 (Threshold K.2)				
Explanation: The project site is located in the hills of Elysian Park, which is considered a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Development in such areas is subject to additional regulations to minimize the risks associated with wildfires. In addition, developments must comply with brush clearance requirements. LAPD would be responsible for clearing any weeds, trees, or other types of vegetation that, because of their condition and location, could provide a ready fuel supply that would augment the intensity of a fire or cause it to spread. With compliance with applicable regulations, impacts related to wildfires would be less than significant. Reference: 30 (Fire Code Amendments), 22 (ZIMAS)				
9. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY – Would the project:				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to discharge water that fails to meet the standards of agencies that regulate surface water quality and discharges into stormwater drainage systems. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.2)				
Explanation: The proposed project would involve the construction and operation of a 24,000-square-foot training facility and parking lot. Construction for the training facility would require excavation to a depth of approximately 5 feet below the existing surface level. There is a risk of short-term, construction-related impacts on the quality of surface water runoff. During construction, hazardous materials would be used, including petroleum fuels and oils for construction equipment. A release of these materials could occur through spills or from runoff during storm events. As required by existing regulations, the city would prepare a SWPPP (please refer to the discussion 6(b), above). The SWPPP would be reviewed and approved by the responsible local, state, and/or federal agency and establish a protocol for proper emergency procedures and handling and disposal of hazardous materials if a spill were to occur during construction. The SWPPP would outline BMPs related to refueling, vehicle washing, and the handling and use of chemicals as well as the storage of chemicals. Compliance with these measures would reduce potential construction impacts on water quality to a level that would be less than significant.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
The existing drainage patterns surrounding the training facility would be restored upon completion of construction. The provision of additional parking in the southeastern portion of the campus, however, would result in changes to surface permeability due to paving land that is currently a permeable landscaped surface. Operation of the expanded parking lot has the potential to introduce a small amount of water contaminants from vehicle leaks onto the paved surface. The level of contamination is not likely to have a significant effect on water quality standards of the Los Angeles Regional Water Resources Control Board As such, operation of the proposed project, as it relates to discharged water, would result in impacts that would be less than significant.				
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level that would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A project would normally have a significant impact on groundwater supplies if it were to result in a demonstrable and sustained reduction of groundwater recharge capacity or change the potable water levels so that it would reduce the ability of a water utility to use the groundwater basin for public water supplies or storage of imported water, reduce the yields of adjacent wells or well fields, or adversely change the rate or direction of groundwater flow. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.2, G.3)				
Explanation: Over the past decade, groundwater has supplied an average of 11% of the water used in the city but as much as 30% in times of drought. The San Fernando Groundwater Basin serves as the source for nearly 80% of this groundwater pumped by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). Construction and operation of the proposed training facility would rely on the same mixture of water sources as that used by other properties in the vicinity and would not require direct pumping of groundwater for the sole purpose of uses on the site. The additional water required for construction and operation of the project would not in itself draw down groundwater supplies; however, as noted above, LADWP draws a greater percentage of its water from underground sources during periods of drought. The impact on groundwater supplies would be less than significant. With respect to groundwater recharge, neither construction nor operation of the training facility would change the capacity for recharge. Paving of the parking lot expansion area would convert approximately 0.35 acre of land from a permeable landscaped surface to a paved asphalt surface; however, this would result in an inconsequential change in local and regional groundwater recharge. There would be an infinitesimal reduction in groundwater recharge capacity. The impact would be less than significant. Reference: 33 (LADWP)				
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in a substantial alteration of drainage patterns and a substantial increase in erosion or siltation during construction or operation. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.1, G.2)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The proposed project would involve the construction and operation of a 24,000-square foot training facility and the expansion of a parking lot. The project would not alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, with the exception of replacing approximately 0.35 acre of landscaped area with asphalt to provide the additional parking. No streams or rivers cross or are within 0.5 mile of the project site. The project would not substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area. As discussed in Item 9(a), the project would result in temporary construction-related soil disturbances, during which time a SWPPP for the control of soil erosion and sediment runoff would be implemented. The project would be constructed in accordance with applicable requirements of the municipal code, including grading requirements. Therefore, construction and operation would not result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site, and impacts would be less than significant.				
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in increased runoff volumes during construction or operation that would result in flooding conditions and affect the project site or nearby properties. Reference: 23 (Threshold G.1)				
Explanation: As discussed in Item 9(c). above, the project would not alter the course of a stream or a river. Construction would require excavation to a depth of approximately 5 feet below the surface level, temporarily leaving the site a permeable surface. Construction activities would create the potential for erosion to occur at the project site; however, soil exposure would be temporary, and implementation of the SWPPP would limit any potential erosion. Following the completion of construction, the site drainage patterns would return to the original pre-construction conditions, aside from paving 0.35 acre for the provision of parking, which could slightly increase the rate of runoff in that specific area. Operation of the training facility is not expected to increase runoff. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in substantial surface runoff, and impacts would be less than significant.				
e) Create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the volume of runoff were to increase to a level that would exceed the capacity of the storm drain system that serves the project site. A significant impact may also occur if the proposed project were to increase the probability substantially that polluted runoff would reach the storm drain system. Reference: 23 (Threshold G.2)				
Explanation: The proposed project may marginally increase runoff, owing to paving the landscaped area in the southeastern portion of the campus. This increase in runoff, however, would not be substantial and therefore would not exceed the capacity of the storm drain system serving the project site. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not result in a substantial contribution to runoff, and impacts would be less than significant.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if a project were to include potential sources of water pollutants and substantially degrade water quality. Reference: 23 (Threshold G.3)				
The proposed project would involve construction and operation of a 24,000-square-foot police training facility and the expansion of a parking lot. As discussed in Item 9(a), above, construction activities and unavoidable leaks from vehicle parking are the only pollution sources with the potential to degrade water quality. However, with the implementation of the site-specific SWPPP as well as compliance with applicable regulations, these potential impacts would be less than significant. No other potential sources of water quality degradation are anticipated.				
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area, as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to place housing within a 100-year flood zone. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.1 to G.4)				
Explanation: The project site is not within a 100-year flood zone, according to the Safety Element of the general plan, and the project does not include housing. The project site is also not considered a special flood hazard area, according to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Flood Insurance Rate Map for the area. No impacts related to flood zones are anticipated to occur. Reference: 36 (FIRM 060137 Panel 1628 F)				
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located within a 100-year flood zone and impede or redirect flood flows. Reference: 19(Thresholds G.4)				
Explanation: The project site is not located within a 100-year flood zone. Given the high elevation of the site relative to its surroundings, the project would not impede or redirect flood flows. Therefore, no impacts related to flooding are anticipated to occur. Reference: 27 (NavigateLA)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located in an area where a dam or levee could fail, exposing people or structures to significant risk of loss, injury, or death. Reference: 23 (Thresholds E.1, G.3)				
Explanation: According to Exhibit G from the Safety Element of the general plan, the project site is not located in an area identified as being susceptible to inundation as a result of levee or dam failure. The nearest reservoir to the project site is Silver Lake Reservoir, located approximately 1.5 miles away. It poses no threat because it is at a lower elevation. No impact relative to dam failure would occur as a result of construction and operation of the project. Reference: Safety Element				
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located in an area with inundation potential due to seiche, tsunami, or mudflow. Reference: 23 (Threshold E.1)				
Explanation: The proposed project site would not be affected by tsunamis given its considerable distance from the ocean and high elevation relative to its surroundings. No large water bodies are located nearby at an equal or higher elevation, so the project would not be at risk of damage by seiche. No impact related to tsunamis or seiche would occur. As indicated in the discussion for Item 6(a)(iv), the project site is in an area that is prone to landslides. Mudflows are one such type of landslide and relatively common in the hills of the Los Angeles area. Although it is not feasible to eliminate the risk associated with landslides, with implementation of measure GEO-1, impacts would be considered less than significant. Reference: 20 (Safety Element)				
10. LAND USE AND PLANNING – Would the project:				
a) Physically divide an established community?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were large enough or configured to create a physical barrier within an established community. Reference: 23 (Thresholds H.2)				
Explanation: The project site is on the Policy Academy campus, located north of Dodger Stadium in the hills of Elysian Park. Given that there is no residential community within 0.25 mile of the project and the project site is part of an existing campus, construction and operation of the proposed training facility and expanded parking lot would not change the function of the campus. The project would not introduce a physical barrier to movement through the area. No impact related to land use and planning would occur.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation (including, but not limited to, the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) of an agency with jurisdiction over the project adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	☐	☐	☒	☐

Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be inconsistent with the general plan, or other applicable plan, or with the site's zoning, if designated to avoid or mitigate a significant potential environmental impact.

Reference: 23 (Thresholds H.1, H.2)

Explanation:

The area is designated as open space for the purposes of both the general plan and zoning code. The parcel on which the proposed training facility would be located is zoned [Q] OS-1XL, and the parcel on which the expansion parking lot would be located is zoned OS-1XL. In 1994, Ordinance 169492 changed the zoning of the training facility parcel to [Q] OS-1XL, with the [Q] signifying additional requirements for the zone. The proposed project would be required to comply with all such Q conditions or apply for a variance. The relevant Q conditions for the proposed training facility site include the following: protection of archaeological resources, documentation of trees, graffiti deterrence and removal, and prohibition of public address systems on the outside of buildings.

The project site is located within the Silver Lake-Echo Park-Elysian Valley Community Plan Area (part of the Land Use Element of the general plan for the area). The community plan recognizes the continuing need to modernize public facilities, improve services, and accommodate changes in the area but also calls for adequate protection of the amenities and environmental quality of the community in meeting these needs.

The community plan contains a number of policies that are directly applicable to the proposed project. Although it is not feasible for the project to construct parking behind the buildings because of topographical constraints, the project would need to comply with Policy 15.1-4, which requires new parking lots and parking structures to be developed in accordance with design standards. These standards include dedicating 7% of the total surface of the parking lot to landscaping and providing a landscaped buffer along public streets. Provided that these conditions are met, the project would be consistent with Policy 15.1-4 of the community plan and result in no impact.

Policy 4-1.1 of the community plan calls for the preservation of existing recreational facilities and park space. The expansion of parking in the southeastern portion of the campus would involve paving an approximately 0.35-acre landscaped area that is contiguous with the grounds of the Elysian Adaptive Recreation Center (Elysian Park), which is adjacent to the Police Academy campus (to the east). This landscaped area is part of a 1.92-acre parcel that currently functions as a passive recreation area. However, the area is not a part of Elysian Park, and land use at this location has been designated for police facility use, per City Ordinance 138523. Although the provision of additional parking spaces would change the current use of this 0.35-acre area, the impact from the loss of this non-park-owned passive recreation area, compared with the entire 604-acre area of Elysian Park, would be minimal. The impact would be less than significant.

Reference: 22 (ZIMAS), 19 (General Plan)

c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to be located within an area governed by a habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan and conflict with such a plan. Reference: 23 (Thresholds H.1, H.2)				
Explanation: Please see the discussion for Item 4(f), above. No impact would occur.				
11. MINERAL RESOURCES – Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project were to be located in an area used or available for extraction of a regionally important mineral resource, convert an existing or potential present or future regionally important mineral extraction use to another use, or affect access to such a site. Reference: 19 (General Plan), 23 (Threshold E.4)				
Explanation: As described in the Conservation Element of the general plan, the primary mineral resources within the city are rock, gravel, and sand deposits, and the only available deposit site within the city is the Tujunga alluvial fan, which is more than 10 miles from the project site. The project site is not located within an area known to contain mineral resources, and no impacts with respect to mineral resources would occur as a result of construction and operation of the proposed project.				
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if a project were to be located in an area used or available for extraction of a locally important mineral resource and convert such a resource to another use or affect access to such a site. Reference: 19 (General Plan), 23 (Threshold E.4)				
Explanation: As discussed in Item 11(a), above, the only available mineral resource extraction area is the Tujunga alluvial fan, which is more than 10 miles from the project site. Construction and operation of the proposed training facility would have no impact with respect to the availability of mineral resources.				
12. NOISE – Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance or applicable standards of other agencies?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project-generated noise levels were to exceed the standards for ambient noise established by the general plan and municipal code or exposed persons to that increased level of noise. Reference: 21 (Noise Element), 23 (Thresholds Section I)				
Explanation:				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
The nearest sensitive receptors to the project site are the residents on Solano Avenue, located approximately 0.5 mile away. The proposed project would most likely result in higher than average noise levels in the area during construction. However, the Bureau of Engineering's Standard Project Specifications for Public Works Construction are designed to comply with the city's general plan Noise Element and related municipal code noise ordinance. Given that the proposed project would be implemented in accordance with these regulations, construction-related noise impacts would be less than significant. Operation of the proposed training facility would not result in increased noise levels compared with existing noise levels on the site because the existing use (i.e., training recruits) would not change. Existing noise-generating activities, which include target practice at the shooting ranges and occasional sirens as officers respond to emergency calls, would continue during and after construction of the training facility. As such, there would be no net increase in noise as a result of operation of the project. No impact related to operational noise would occur.				
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project were to expose persons to or generate excessive ground-borne vibration or ground-borne noise levels. Reference: 21 (Noise Element), 23 (Thresholds Section I)				
Explanation: Construction activities associated with the project could generate ground-borne vibration from the use of heavy equipment. These effects would be temporary and short term in nature and would comply with applicable construction standards. Construction-related noise and vibration impacts would be less than significant. Please see the discussion for Item 11(a), above. Operation of the training facility and expansion of the parking area would not generate excessive ground-borne vibration or noise given that the use of the site would not change substantially. No impact related to noise would result from operation of the project.				
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project were to increase ambient noise levels in the vicinity substantially and permanently above levels existing without the proposed project. Reference: 21 (Noise Element), 23 (Thresholds Section I)				
Explanation: Please refer to the discussion for Item 12(a), above. No impact would result from operation of the project.				
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the project were to create a substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the proposed project. Reference: 21 (Noise Element), 23 (Thresholds Section I)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: Please refer to the discussion for Item 12(a), above. Construction of the proposed training facility and expanded parking lot would increase noise in the area, but the project would comply with the Bureau of Engineering's Standard Project Specifications for Public Works Construction. Noise impacts related to construction would be less than significant. The project would not change the site's use as a training facility for officers and recruits and would not increase the number of people who use the site. Therefore, no operational increases in noise would occur, and the project would have no impact.				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within 2 miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if noise levels at a noise sensitive use attributable to airport operations exceed 65 dB CNEL and the project increases ambient noise levels by 1.5 dB CNEL or greater. Reference: 19 (Thresholds Section I.4), 27(NavigateLA)				
Explanation: The project site is located approximately 10 miles from Bob Hope Airport. It does not lie within the airport master plan area. Because the proposed training facility would not be located within 2 miles of an airport and there are no sensitive receptors in the immediate area, it would not expose residents or workers in the area to airport noise in addition to the construction noise that would occur as a result of the project. No impact would occur.				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if noise levels at a noise sensitive use attributable to airport operations exceed 65 dB CNEL and the project increases ambient noise levels by 1.5 dB CNEL or greater. Reference: 23 (Thresholds Section I.4), 27 (NavigateLA)				
Explanation: No private airstrips are located within the vicinity of the project site. Therefore, no construction or operational impacts would occur.				
13. POPULATION AND HOUSING – Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (e.g., by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (e.g., through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if population growth were to be induced in an area, either directly or indirectly, such that the planned population of that area is exceeded. Reference: 23 (Thresholds Section J.1)				
Explanation: The proposed project does not include the construction of housing. It would not result in direct population growth in the area through the provision of dwelling units. Although the facility would be accessible to officers 24 hours per day, the project would not include a dormitory. In addition, the project would not increase population indirectly through the creation of jobs. Because of the limited (16- to 18-month)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
duration of construction and the small number of construction workers that would be required, construction of the proposed project would not have the potential to induce population growth, either directly or indirectly. No impact would occur.				
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: Normally, no significant impact will occur if the project will not result in a net loss of 15 single-family dwellings or 25 dwellings in multifamily housing. Reference: 23 (Thresholds J.1 and J.2)				
Explanation: There is no housing on the project site, and no displacement would occur. No impact would occur.				
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: Normally, no significant impact will occur if the project will not result in a net loss of 15 single-family dwellings or 25 dwellings in multifamily housing. Reference: 23 (Thresholds J.2)				
Explanation: As stated above for Item 13(b), the proposed project would not displace housing. Therefore, no impact would occur at the project site.				
14. PUBLIC SERVICES –				
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities or the need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:				
i) Fire protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if LAFD cannot adequately serve the proposed project because of response time, access, or fire hydrant/water availability. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.2)				
Explanation: The project site is served by LAFD Battalion 11 at Station No. 20, located at 2144 West Sunset Boulevard, approximately 1.3 miles to the west. The proposed project would not result in an increase in population and thus would not generate a need for new or altered fire protection facilities. The proposed project would be constructed in accordance with all applicable fire codes set forth by the state Fire Marshall and LAFD. Therefore, the proposed project would not be considered a fire hazard and would not exceed the capacity of LAFD to serve the site or other areas with existing fire protection services. The nearest local fire responders would be notified, as appropriate, of traffic control plans during construction so as to coordinate emergency response routing during construction work. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not create hazards that would increase the need for fire protection. Therefore, no impacts would occur.				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
ii) Police protection?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in an increase in demand for police services that would exceed the capacity of the police department responsible for serving the site. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.1)				
Explanation: The project site is served by LAPD's Northeast Division, located at 3353 North San Fernando Road. The proposed project would not require additional police protection beyond what is currently provided. The nearest local police station would be notified, as appropriate, of traffic control plans during construction so as to coordinate emergency response routing during construction work. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not increase the need for police services. The proposed project would be located within the existing Police Academy, which is already a secure facility. No residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational land uses are proposed as part of the project. Therefore, no impacts would occur.				
iii) Schools?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to include substantial employment or population growth that would generate demand for school facilities and exceed the capacity of the school district responsible for serving the project site. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.3)				
Explanation: The project site is located within approximately 0.5 to 1 mile of six schools: Elysian Heights Elementary School, Dorris Place Elementary School, Baxter Montessori School, Echo Park Head Start, Los Angeles Theatre Academy, and Solano Avenue Elementary School. The proposed project does not include a housing component, and it would not increase employment. The proposed project would not induce growth directly or indirectly and therefore would not increase the demand for schools in the area. Construction and operation of the proposed training facility would not directly or indirectly increase student enrollment levels. No impacts would occur.				
iv) Parks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if available recreational and park services cannot accommodate the population increase resulting from implementation of the proposed project. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.4)				
Explanation: As expressed in Items 14(a)(1)–14(a)(3), the proposed project would not induce growth and would not strain park services through direct or indirect means. No impact would result from construction and operation of the proposed training facility.				
v) Other public facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: Projects that do not result in a net increase of 75 residential units normally would not have a significant impact on public libraries. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.5)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: Given that the proposed training facility would replace existing trailers, a tennis court, and expand an existing parking facility, the project would not result in a net increase of 75 residential units or more. Construction and operation of the proposed project would result in no impact on public facilities.				
15. RECREATION –				
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facilities would occur or be accelerated?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to include substantial employment or population growth that generates demand for public park facilities and exceeds the capacity of existing parks. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.4)				
Explanation: As discussed for Item 14, above, the project would neither induce population growth from the provision of housing nor increase long-term employment. Therefore, it would not increase demand for park resources. No impact would occur. Please refer to the discussion for Item 10(b), above, regarding the paving of a 0.35-acre landscaped area that serves as a passive recreational area.				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to include substantial employment or population growth that generates demand for public park facilities and exceeds the capacity of existing parks. Reference: 23 (Thresholds K.4)				
Explanation: The proposed project would not include or require a recreational facility. No impact would occur.				
16. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC – Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation, including mass transit and non-motorized travel, and relevant components of the circulation system, including intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to cause an increase in traffic that would be substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system. Reference: 23 (Thresholds L.1 to L.4, L.8)				
Explanation: Traffic may be temporarily affected by construction activities, but long-term operational changes would not occur as a result of the project. During construction, workers would access the work site on a daily basis. However, traffic generated by construction of the proposed project would be temporary, and traffic would				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
diminish to pre-construction levels once the proposed project is completed. Daily operational traffic (including trainee visits) would continue to fluctuate during construction as it does during normal operations. Construction activities may also temporarily limit access to portions the site. However, traffic patterns would return to pre-construction (i.e., existing) conditions. Therefore, the proposed project would not conflict with any applicable plan, ordinance, or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system. Once constructed, operation of the facility would not increase daily vehicle trips on the surrounding street system beyond existing levels because no additional recruits or officers are anticipated to be enrolled as a result of the project. The project would not result in increased operational traffic. Impacts related to the operation of the proposed project would be less than significant.				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including level-of-service standards and travel demand measures or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to conflict with an applicable congestion management program. Reference: 23 (Thresholds L.1 to L3)				
Explanation: During construction, workers would access the work site on a daily basis. Traffic generated by construction of the proposed project would be temporary and would not affect the traffic load or capacity of the street system substantially in the vicinity. Therefore, no significant impacts on established levels of service are expected. Operation of the facility would not add any vehicular trips on the surrounding street system; therefore, no impacts would occur. The proposed project would not conflict with the Congestion Management Program for Los Angeles County; the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) is responsible for implementing the Congestion Management Program. Impacts would be less than significant. Reference: 32 (Metro)				
c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that would result in substantial safety risks?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to change air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location, that would result in substantial safety risks.				
Explanation: The proposed project would not include a heliport. The project site is located approximately 10 miles from the nearest airport. Therefore, no impact on air traffic patterns would occur.				
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to increase road hazards due to a design feature or incompatible uses substantially. Reference: 23 (Threshold L.5)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The proposed project would not require changes to local public roads or introduce incompatible uses. No new public roads would be constructed, and any on-site improvements would be designed to avoid hazardous features. Therefore, no impact would occur.				
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in inadequate emergency access. Reference: 23 (Thresholds L.5, L.8, and J2)				
Explanation: The project does not propose any permanent changes to the surrounding street system. Furthermore, it would not introduce incompatible vehicles to surrounding roadways. Temporary traffic control elements would be subject to review, including a safety review, and approval by the City of Los Angeles Department of Transportation. The proposed project would not prohibit emergency access to the existing facility. Therefore, no impact would occur.				
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation. Reference: 23 (Threshold L.6)				
Explanation: The proposed project would be located entirely within the existing boundaries of the Police Academy and would not affect alternative transportation facilities. The proposed project would not conflict with any adopted policies, plans, or programs. Therefore, no impact would occur.				
17. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS – Would the project:				
a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the local regulatory governing agency. Reference: 23 (Threshold M.2)				
Explanation: The proposed project would involve the construction of a 24,000-square-foot building, which would exceed the area of the existing trailers on the site by approximately 12,000 square feet. However, the proposed project would not change the operational characteristics of the site, which is an LAPD training facility). The number of people on site (including tourists or local visitors) is anticipated to remain the same as under pre-construction conditions. Therefore, it is anticipated that no or minimal additional wastewater would be generated. Impacts would be less than significant.				
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to result in the need for new construction or the expansion of water or wastewater treatment facilities, which could result in an adverse environmental effect that could not be mitigated. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.1, M.1 and M.2)				
Explanation: The project is not a large-scale development and would not involve population growth. Therefore, the project would not require the creation of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or the improvement of existing facilities. No impact would result.				
c) Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or the expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the volume of stormwater runoff from the proposed project were to increase to a level that would exceed the capacity of the storm drain system that serves the project site. Reference: 23 (Thresholds G.1 and M.2)				
Explanation: The project site is currently served by a number storm drain inlets that connect to the storm drain system. Aside from the additional runoff associated with paving the 0.35-acre area in the southeastern portion of the campus, the project would not increase the volume of stormwater runoff. The parking lot expansion is located at a high point relative to its surroundings. Some stormwater would flow to the east, and the rest would flow to the west. The distribution of stormwater runoff would minimize impacts on the stormwater drainage system. No impact would result.				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or would new or expanded entitlements be needed?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project's water demands were to exceed existing water supplies that serve the site. Reference: 23 (Threshold M.1)				
Explanation: LADWP provides potable water to the project area and vicinity. Construction would result in a temporary increase in water use, but this would not exceed the available water supply. Operation of the larger training facility would result in no or minimal increases in water usage. Any increases in water usage, though minimal, have been accounted for in the LADWP Urban Water Management Plan, which is responsible for documenting available water supplies in the service area, which has an annual average population growth rate of 0.4%. The project would be LEED certified (Silver) and conform to the city's Green Building Code, both of which have provisions for water efficiency measures. Construction and operation of the proposed project would not stress local water supplies, and impacts would be less than significant. Reference: 39 (UWMP)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to increase wastewater generation to such a degree that the capacity of facilities that currently serve the project site would be exceeded. Reference:				
Explanation: Please see the discussion for Item 17(a), above. No impact would result.				
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to increase solid waste generation to a degree such that existing and projected landfill capacities would be unable to accommodate the additional waste. Reference: 23 (Thresholds M.3), 31 (Countywide Siting Report)				
Explanation: City standards for public works require demolition debris to be recycled, where feasible; therefore, impacts associated with construction debris would be less than significant. Additionally, the city's Green Building Code has provisions and LEED accreditation has minimum requirements for the reduction of waste. After construction, the project would not generate substantial amounts of solid waste. Impacts would be less than significant.				
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Standard: A significant impact may occur if the proposed project were to generate solid waste that would be in excess of or not disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations. Reference: 23 (Threshold M.3), 31 (Countywide Siting Report)				
Explanation: The project would be designed, constructed, and operated to follow all applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, and formally adopted city standards. No impact would result.				
18. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE				
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal, or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	☐	☒	☐	☐
Reference: 23 (Threshold C, D.1, D.2, D.3, et al.)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: As discussed for Items 4(a) and 4(e), above, the project has the potential to result in impacts on nesting birds and two mature native oak trees. However, with implementation of measures BIO-1 through BIO-3, impacts would be less than significant. The project would involve excavation to a level approximately 5 feet below the surface, which could affect paleontological resources. However, with implementation of mitigation measure PR-1, impacts would be less than significant. Overall, project impacts would be reduced to a less-than-significant level.				
b) Does the project have impacts that would be individually limited but cumulatively considerable ("cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project would be considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	☐	☐	☒	☐
Reference: 23 (Thresholds A-M)				
Explanation: The proposed project would be located on a developed portion of the Police Academy campus. The only reasonably foreseeable project within 0.5 mile of the project site is the proposed renovation of the administration building, cafe, and four shooting ranges on the Police Academy campus, all of which are considered historic resources. Renovations would occur between the fall of 2013 and the spring of 2015, which overlaps with the construction period of the proposed project, which is scheduled to take place between the spring of 2014 and the summer of 2015. *Historic Resources* The renovation project, which would conform to the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, would have a less-than-significant impact. The proposed project would remove a portion of the potentially historic western wall along Academy Drive. However, given the small size of the removed portion of the wall and its generally lesser quality craftsmanship compared with other portions, removal would not be considered a significant impact. The proposed project would be visually shielded from the renovations taking place at the administration building, cafe, and four shooting ranges. Therefore, the proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact with respect to historic resources. *Construction* Although the renovation project is not expected to require a substantial amount of debris removal during excavation work for the proposed project, haul routes would be coordinated through and approved by the Department of Public Works to avoid unduly burdening roadways around the project area, which is standard practice. The project would comply with the Bureau of Engineering's Master Specifications, which contain provisions related to project interface and coordination. The proposed project would not result in a cumulatively considerable contribution to a significant cumulative impact.				
c) Does the project have the potential to achieve short-term environmental goals to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Reference: 23 (Thresholds A-M)				

Issues	Potentially Significant Impact	Less than Significant with Mitigation	Less than Significant	No Impact
Explanation: The proposed project would replace existing trailer buildings on the Police Academy campus with a modern 24,000-square-foot training facility and add parking to the campus. The project would fulfill both short- and long-term needs of the Police Academy without sacrificing short- or long-term environmental goals. Per requirements of the Green Building Code, the proposed training facility would be outfitted with fixtures and systems that would be energy and water efficient. No impacts on either short- or long-term environmental goals would occur.				
d) Does the project have environmental effects that would cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	☐	☐	☐	☒
Reference: 23 (Thresholds A-M)				
Explanation: The proposed project would involve construction and operation of 24,000-square-foot training facility and additional parking. As discussed above, the nearest residence is 0.4 mile south of the project site. The preceding analysis determined that no substantial increases in noise and vehicular traffic would occur and that existing conditions related to safety (because of geologic conditions), the release of hazardous materials, air quality, or any other issue that would affect human health and well being would not deteriorate. No impact would result.				

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

A draft initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) for the Police Academy Replacement Training Facility (W.O E170828F) was circulated for a 20-day public review period beginning on August 9, 2012, and ending on August 28, 2012. Three comment letters were received and are included in this final IS/MND. No new significant environmental impacts or issues were raised during the comment period. A Notice of Intent to Adopt the IS/MND was published in the Los Angeles Times on August 9, 2012.

LIST OF COMMENTERS

The parties that submitted comments on the draft IS/MND during the public review period are listed below.

ID	Commenter	Date
A	Christine Peters, President Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park	August 27, 2012
B	Sallie W. Neubauer	August 28, 2012
C	Holly Hampton, Vice President Echo Park Historical Society	August 28, 2012

Comment Letter A

Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park

Christine Peters, President
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Los Angeles, Ca 90026

(323) 270-3270

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8/27,2012

Initial Study
Police Academy Replacement Training Facility

The Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (CCSEP), respectfully would like to make the following comments in regards to the proposed Police Academy Replacement Training Facility.

A-1 On page 6, B., Purpose, of the initial Study, it is stated that "Academy enrollment is not anticipated to increase as a result of the project." In light of the fact that this project is not anticipated to increase enrollment, therefore there is no need to increase parking.

A-2 Although this is a newly constructed building, it is a replacement facility for an existing use, and should not be required to provide parking to current code.

A-3 The L.A. Police Academy and Campus are eligible for listing on the National Historic register and the design and requirements for the replacement facility should reflect that status.

A-4 Page 7 of the Initial Study describes the 2 locations proposed for the "code required" parking. The parking adjacent to the new construction and the "expansion" of the lot at the Southeast portion of the Campus. Repaving and re-striping of the southeast lot to be vacated by the portable classrooms should be sufficient, without forcing the paving and removal of the "open space" triangle that runs contiguous with Elysian Park.

A-5 The CCSEP, supports any and all variances from L.A.M.C. so that additional parking is not required that would displace the green space and add further unsightly asphalt alongside Elysian Park. CCSEP feels this land earmarked for additional parking shall remain open space by recording a covenant to maintain the triangle as open space in perpetuity.

We respectfully request this change be made to the current proposal,

Regards,

Christine Peters
President, CCSEP

Responses to Comment Letter A

Comment A-1
The commenter cites the statement from the Initial Study that the proposed project is not anticipated to increase Police Academy enrollment, and argues that there is no need for an expansion of the parking area.

The proposed project is required to meet parking regulations in the same manner that any new building would be required to comply. The proposed training facility is a government building and would be required to provide one parking space for each 500 gross square feet of building. Most (46) of these new spaces would be provided by expanding the parking lot on the southeastern portion of the campus, and three disabled parking spots would be provided adjacent to the proposed training facility. In addition to the 15 spaces already on the parking lot on the southeastern portion of the campus, the total number of spaces in the lot would be 61. The parking at the site is based on the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) Section 12.21(A)(4), which depends on the use of the building. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment A-2
The commenter states that because the proposed training facility is replacing existing buildings on the campus, it should not be required to meet current code for parking standards.

While the proposed training facility is considered a replacement for the existing trailer buildings on the Police Academy campus, it is a new building and is required to meet current code requirements, including complying with the provision of vehicle parking. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment A-3
The commenter states that the Police Academy and the campus are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and that the design and requirements for the replacement facility should reflect that status.

While it is true that individual buildings and landmarks on the Police Academy campus have been identified as historic resources, the campus was not identified as culturally significant in its entirety. The sites/buildings which were identified as potentially eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are: the Rock Garden, Pistol Range Building and mechanical target apparatus, and the Gym/Administration building. In 2012, a site inspection found that the mechanical target apparatus has been removed and therefore is no longer a contributor to the potential National Register listing. Finally, the Club House and Cafeteria building, and the landscape building adjacent to the Rock Garden, were designated as City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument No. 110. These areas and buildings are the only resources on the Police Academy campus that were deemed culturally significant. The design of the proposed training facility would not detract from the historic character of surrounding buildings, as it would be differentiated and partially obscured by trees and vegetation from the historic buildings. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment A-4
The commenter states that repaving and re-striping of the southeastern parking lot should be sufficient to meet parking needs without paving the landscaped area to east that is contiguous with Elysian Park.

The project is required to meet current code requirements related to the provision of on-site parking. There is no other area of sufficient size on the campus to provide such parking other than the proposed location to the east of the existing parking lot on the southeastern portion of the campus. The commenter

does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment A-5

The commenter states that the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park supports any and all variances from the code in order to preserve the green space on the southeastern portion of the campus, and recommends recording a covenant to maintain the landscaped area on the southeastern portion of the campus as open space.

Comment noted. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment Letter B

Sallie W. Neubauer

August 28, 2012

Norman Mundy
Environmental Specialist II
1149 S. Broadway, Suite #600
Los Angeles, CA 90015-2213

RE: Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for Police Academy Replacement Training Facility (W.O. E170828F)
B.O.E. Environmental Management Group August 9, 2012

Dear Mr. Mundy:
While there are some statements in the MND whose veracity I question, I feel it is equally important for all involved in deciding this new facility to have an informed background on the Police Academy in Elysian Park. I have included several enclosures to that end.

B-1 Of utmost importance is the result of the last go-around for which an Environmental Impact Report was prepared in 1992. LAPD's proposal to build a new Training Academy on the Elysian Park site resulted instead in the purchase by the city of the Hewlitt-Packard Training Facility in Westchester. This decision was made in part because the Elysian Park campus was deemed quite culturally significant, and because it was recognized that the 21 acre site in Elysian Park is not adequate for the high quality training needed for cadets. The Westchester facility houses three times the classroom

B-2 space that exists in Elysian Park. It is a three story state-of-the-art training facility which was nowhere near capacity when I toured it on 2/22/10.

B-3 When LAPD first approached the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park about this project in 2010, the department presented it as a 20,000 sq' building to replace 11,000-12,000 sq' of trailer space. Now it has grown to 24,000 sq'. We were told that no additional training was going to take place; the MND states there is to be no increase in training staff. Why, then is there a proposal to double the amount of building and add 61 parking spaces?

B-4 II A) The Project description is incorrect. The Academy is adjacent to Elysian Park; it is across the street from Dodger Stadium Special Event parking.

B-5 B) Please provide fact sheets that prove an average of 12 classes/year and numbers/class.

B-6 Why do recruits need to train there at all when there is a spacious under-used facility in Westchester?

B-7 C) How many trailers are to be replaced? Where are they and what is their total sq footage?

B-8 New expanded parking proposed for the lot on Malvina & Academy is not acceptable. This is currently open green space of Elysian Park planted with memorial trees honoring loved ones.

1

Sallie W. Neubauer Comments RE: W.O. E170828F

B-9 9,100cy soil removal seems excessive. It would imply that quite a lot of hillside is proposed for removal. This fact alone may warrant further study than has been performed. A haul route and hours of operation through the park must also be addressed.

B-10 FIG 3 shows how inappropriately huge the proposed building is (larger by a considerable margin than the main building), and how it will encroach on park views from Elysian Park above. It also shows inappropriate conversion of Elysian Park to parking lot.

B-11 III The Solano Community is .04 mi. East, not South.

B-12 IV D) Aesthetics and noise are possible significant impacts on Elysian Park. There is no

B-13 mention of air conditioners air conditioner ducts or generators

B-14 Table 2 It is highly unlikely that there are no California Walnut trees on the site. These are protected as are the oaks and must be replaced with a 2:1 ratio.

B-15 E) The 1992 EIR prepared for a proposed new Police Academy identified 6 very culturally significant features on the Elysian Park campus including retaining walls slated for removal in this MND. Their removal will mar the cultural/historic fabric. The huge building will not be in keeping with the 1930's heart of the campus.

B-16 J) The Echo Park-Silverlake-Elysian Valley Plan recommends that training be phased out there and the land be returned to Elysian Park. The Los Angeles City Charter Section 597 details how encroachment by police training in Elysian Park resulted in the taking of park land. Section 597 also recommends that upon abandonment as a police training facility, the land be transferred back to the Department of Recreation and Parks and dedicated as public park.

B-17 The proposed parking expansion area is incorrectly identified as non-park owned.

B-18 L) No mention of generators or air conditioners.

B-19 Q) It is inappropriate and environmentally damaging to double the sq' of building there from 12,000 to 24,000, while at the same time removing 10,000sq' of open space.

B-20 R) This building will directly and indirectly have adverse effects on humans looking down on it from Elysian Park.

B-21 Bio-2 Please explain how potential trees with bat roosts can be left undisturbed while the rest of the site is bulldozed.

Initial Study
Aesthetics

B-22 C) This proposal has a potentially significant impact to degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and surroundings (both as an inappropriate behemoth, out of scale with the campus and as changing scenic views below Elysian Park).

Cultural Resources

B-23 A) This proposal will definitely degrade historic resources (see earlier comments re; retaining walls and cohesiveness of the campus).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Sallie W. Neubauer

Assistant President, Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park

2

Sallie W. Neubauer Comments RE: W.O. E170828F

Enclosures:
Table 3.14-1 from Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Police Bond Program-Police Training Academy (W.O. #E1700002) June, 1992

Los Angeles City Charter, Section 597. February 3, 1999

Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (CCSEP) letter to L.A.Times April 3, 1989 (2 Pages)

CCSEP letter to Board of Public Works Commission July 14, 1987 (2 pages)

L.A. Times article "Impact of Police Academy to Be Studied" by Larry Gordon July 30, 1987 (2 pages)

CCSEP paper "Some Facts about the Police in Elysian Park" July 14, 1987 (2 pages)

Frontispiece Report from City Administrative Officer to City Council RE: Motion of Council requesting study- June 8, 1972. Subject: Police Training Facility July 31, 1972 CAO File No. 0220-627; Council File No. 70-5114

3

TABLE 3.14-1
LIST OF SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL RESOURCES WITHIN 1,500 FEET OF ALTERNATIVE SITES

ALTERNATIVE SITE	LOCATION OF RESOURCE	HISTORIC NAME	YEAR BUILT	EVALUATION	DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL OWNER/ ARCHITECT/ BUILDER	SOURCE AND/OR SIGNIFICANCE
CURRENT POLICE TRAINING ACADEMY	1880 N ACADEMY DR	POLICE ACADEMY ROCK GARDEN	1937	5	LANDSCAPED ROCK GARDEN	REVOLVER CLUB/ SCOTTI, FRANCOIS/ TRUSTEE LABOR	LAHCM MONUMENT #110;DESIGNATION INCLUDES ROCK GARDEN, WATERFALLS, POOLS, CLUBHOUSE, AND ADJACENT LANDSCAPED AREAS
		POLICE ACADEMY PISTOL RANGE	1925	4	SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL, 2-STORY PISTOL RANGE	REVOLVER CLUB/ HEATH, R. LEE & CROSSMAN, E.C./ FICKERT, SGT. HENRY	ONE OF THE FIRST BUILDINGS ON SITE, MAY HAVE BEEN USED DURING 1932 OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL SMALL BORE EVENTS
		POLICE ACADEMY CLUBHOUSE AND CAFETERIA	1932	5	SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL, 2-STORY CLUBHOUSE	L. A. P. D./ BARTER, H. H./ LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT	PART OF LAHCM MONUMENT #110
		POLICE ACADEMY GYMNASIUM/ ADMINISTRATION	1935-36	4	W. P. A. MODERNE, 3-STORY GYMNASIUM/ OFFICES	L. A. P. D./ SCHABARUM, P. K./ LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT	POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES UNDER CRITERION C
		POLICE ACADEMY CENTRAL COURTYARD	1935-36	5	LANDSCAPED COURTYARD	L. A. P. D./ SCHABARUM, P. K./ LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT	SIGNIFICANT AS A LOCAL RESOURCE AND FOR ITS HISTORIC ASSOCIATION WITH THE POLICE ACADEMY
		POLICE ACADEMY ENTRANCE/ RETAINING WALLS	1935-36	6	COMPOSITE ASPHALT BLOCK PYLONS/ WALLS	L. A. P. D./ SCHABARUM, P. K./ LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT	WORTHY OF NOTE AS A LANDSCAPE FEATURE;INCLUDED FOR REFERENCE PURPOSES ONLY
		POLICE ACADEMY SWIMMING POOL AREA	1935-36	6	SPANISH COLONIAL REVIVAL, 1-STORY SWIMMING POOL AREA	L. A. P. D./ SCHABARUM, P. K./ LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT	LOSS OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEGRITY;INCLUDED FOR RECORDING PURPOSES ONLY
		OLYMPIC VILLAGE BUNGALOW	1932	6	VERNACULAR, 1-STORY OLYMPIC BUNGALOW	CITY OF L. A./ /	RELOCATED FROM BALDWIN HILLS OLYMPIC VILLAGE

Comment Letter B

(b) The board may design, construct and operate subsurface parking structures under lands within its control, subject to subsection (a) (1) and (2) of this section. The revenue derived from the operation of the parking structures shall be paid into the Recreation and Parks Fund.

Sec. 597. Location of Police Training Facility.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Charter or ordinance, jurisdiction over that portion of Elysian Park described in Council File 70-5114 and supplements, containing approximately 21.464 acres which was used as of July 1, 1972, primarily as a police training facility, is transferred to the Department of Public Works for use as public buildings and grounds, including use as police training facilities and related purposes. Such portion shall, upon abandonment of the site as a police training facility, be transferred to the Department of Recreation and Parks and shall be dedicated as a public park.

Comment Letter B

Sponsors:
Charles P. Bluestein
Ray Bradbury
Arthur Carstens
Dr. John Caughey
Harold E. Crowe, M.D.
Richard Dorman, AIA
Garrett Eckbo, FASLA
Mrs. Tasker L. Edmiston
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Murry Wagner
William T. Watson
Dr. Emmet L. Wemple
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Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park

1501 Cerro Gordo
Los Angeles, CA 90026
(213) 666-9651, 222-8050
April 3, 1989

Re: L.A. Times Real Estate Sect., Sunday, April2, Academy Staying Put

To the Editor:

The LAPD says it has no plans to take any more land from Elysian Park for its proposed new Police Academy. That may or may not be. The Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (CCSEP) has seen a breakdown of planned building square footage (224,000 sq.') but, to date, LAPD has failed to show us how the buildings will fit on the site it currently occupies. We have seen plans that include 3 parking structures of 2 and 3 stories, not underground as Capt. Berg states, to accomodate 1000 cars. Nowhere in any of the plans is there any mention of enclosed firing ranges.

Let us clarify a few facts about the Police Academy in Elysian Park. Capt. Berg's claim that the issue of moving the Academy out of the park was "extensively debated" in 1972 is misleading. In 1972 the City Administrative Officer (CAO) submitted a report to the L.A. City Council that studied complete cost estimates of alternative sites for a new Police Academy. Of the 29 sites considered, 6 were judged to have good potential. Two of these would have required no land aquisition cost. A third site of 60 acres (Ascot Reservoir) was both centrally located and would have cost only $600,000. The LAPD, however, did not wish to consider any of these alternatives. There was no debate. There were no public hearings. What ensued was a debate among City Council members whether or not to place Charter Amendment U on the Ballot, Nov., 1972. Although a majority of then Councilmembers had long sought to oust the Police Dept. from Elysian Park land, the Council, under

intense pressure from LAPD, agreed by one vote (8 to 7) to place the proposed Charter Amendment on the ballot. This proposed to transfer jurisdiction of 21.46 acres of Elysian Park from the Dept. of Recreation and Parks to the Dept. of Public Works. In their arguement for Prop. U the LAPD stated that a "yes" vote would save taxpayers $15 million that it would cost to relocate the Academy at another site. Where that figure came from we don't know. The point to be made is that LAPD successfully used tax threats to gain a narrow margin for the passage of Prop. U, and in Nov. of '72, 21 acres of park land was lost. Capt. Berg is obviously unaware of this history or he would not have "seriously doubted" that the voters would allow any land to be taken away from the park in the future. The April 11,1989 proposed Bond Issue -- $176 million for new Police facilities -- includes $40 million for construction of a new Academy but no funds for land aquisition.

A Police Academy does not belong in a park. The training exercises and pistol firing are not compatible with park enjoyment. The traffic the officers and recruits generate add air pollution and more noise pollution. To increase the training capacity three fold is what LAPD has in mind. To think that this would not negatively impact the surrounding park is ridiculous. Even if LAPD were able to build a new academy on the acreage they currently occupy, which we question, the increased density of trainees would cause more disruption to park use.

There is City owned land available for a new academy today. There is even centrally located land available. A large multiple acre parcel exists within the LASW Community College District which is virtually unused by the school. The CRA is also currently negotiating altered land use in much of South Central L.A. and Councilman Farrell has openly stated that he would welcome a Police Academy there.

The example of the L.A. Convention Center should serve as a warning. In 1965 the Mayor and City Council unanimously agreed that Elysian Park was the perfect site for it. Elysian Park offered "free" centrally located land. The CCSEP mobilized and kept the Convention Center out of the park. Had we not succeeded in this battle, L.A. would have lost a tremendous amount of park land as today, the Convention Center is being expanded to over twice its original size. If the Police are allowed to expand their academy in Elysian Park, what will happen in Elysian Park's future? We do not argue that LAPD needs better facilities to train our officers, but please, not in Elysian Park.

Sincerely,

Sallie W. Neubauer

Sallie W. Neubauer
President, CCSEP

Comment Letter B

Sponsors:
Charles P. Bluestein
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Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park

1501 Cerro Gordo, Los Angeles, CA 90026
(213) 666-9651, 222-8050

July 14, 1987

Honorable Members of the Public Works Commission:

The Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park (CCSEP) would like to point out that this 5year/5 phase plan to expand and renovate the Los Angeles Police Academy has been not only discussed but thoroughly researched before. In June of 1972 the City Council passed a motion requesting the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to conduct a complete (59 p.) study including costs for alternate sites on the proposed expansion of the Police Academy. According to the CAO report (p. 26), " Each location was viewed by members of this office in cooperation with the Police Department's Helicopter Unit which made time available for a comprehensive survey. In addition many locations were viewed at ground level to better assess topography and site conditions."

Of 26 possible alternate sites 9 were recommended as showing "good potential." Four of those estimates would have cost less than expansion in Elysian Park. The other 5 with 1 exception were all within an excess of $1 million. The CAO concluded: (p.1)
1. The Elysian Park Site is now and will always be inadequate for high quality and comprehensive training required by the L.A.P.D.
2. Users of Elysian Park around the Police facility will continue to increase resulting in more irritation to the public. To use this site in Elysian Park is incompatible use of public land.
3. There are several viable and attractive alternative sites which would provide a better facility.
4. A consolidated recruit training program with the Sherriff could offer a substantial reduction in City training costs.

Despite obstinate denial by the Police then and now, the fact remains that the L.A. Police Training Facility is incompatible to Elysian Park. The Police recruits use the park daily for cross-country runs and other non-park activities, all of which is illegal. Depending on the direction of the wind, shots from their firing range practice can be heard in many areas of the park from dawn 'til dusk. To people in the park this is an outrageous intrusion on what should be a serene experience. To think that adding parking garages to accomodate 835 when the Police now claim that approximately 600 park in their lots and on the streets— an increase of 235 spaces— would not

p. 2

[*]

air pollution would all increase dramatically. Furthermore where will the expansion stop? Mayor Bradley has called for 250 new Police Officers to be added to the force. By the year 2020 is it not safe to assume we will need an additional 500, and will not the then "new" training facility be bursting at the seams?

These points were raised in criticism of a 1974 Draft Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIR) prepared for this very same 5 year/5 phase proposed expansion of the Police Training Facilities. This Draft EIR was riddled with evasive and inaccurate information and failed to comply with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQUA) and the State and City guidelines for its enforcement. The most flagrant illegal aspect of this Draft EIR was that it was based on the assumption that the Planning Commission had approved the location of the site for the new academy when in reality it never had. Following is the statement issued by the Planning Commission in 1972:

"The existing Police training facilities are recognized as being inadequate and ultimately a new facility is planned. The recently approved Police Facilities Plan adopted by the Planning Commission does not designate or identify the proper location of any new Police training facilities.... The ultimate decision relative to a location for a completely new Police training facility should be considered only after the total needs of such a development are presented so that overall site requirements can be evaluated." (underlining added)

There were then many and are now* even more people who would like the Police training facilities out of Elysian Park. Back in 1974 a final EIR for the expansion was never made. The controversial project was dropped. Now in 1987, 13 years later, the whole business returns with the Police saying all the same things as if there had never been any controversy. No one can dispute that the current facilities are inadequate. But the opinion of the CAO back in 1972 is still shared by many:

"The Elysian Park Site is now and will always be inadequate...."

The CCSEP objects to the transfer of the Los Angeles Police and Revolver Athletic Club (LAPRAC) deed to the City under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works. As far as we can determine such a transfer would:
1. Unduly benefit LAPRAC in that the club would no longer have to pay liability insurance ($62,000/ yr., 1987).
2. Open the way for construction of a parking garage which is part of the Phase I proposed expansion of the Police Facilities. There should be no more expansion on the Elysian Park Site. Now is the time to find another site, not continue to build on the old site. The CCSEP asks that this Commission request that another updated complete study, including costs of alternate sites for a P olice training facility be prepared by the CAO.

Sincerely,

Sallie W. Neubauer

Sallie W. Neubauer, President, CCSEP

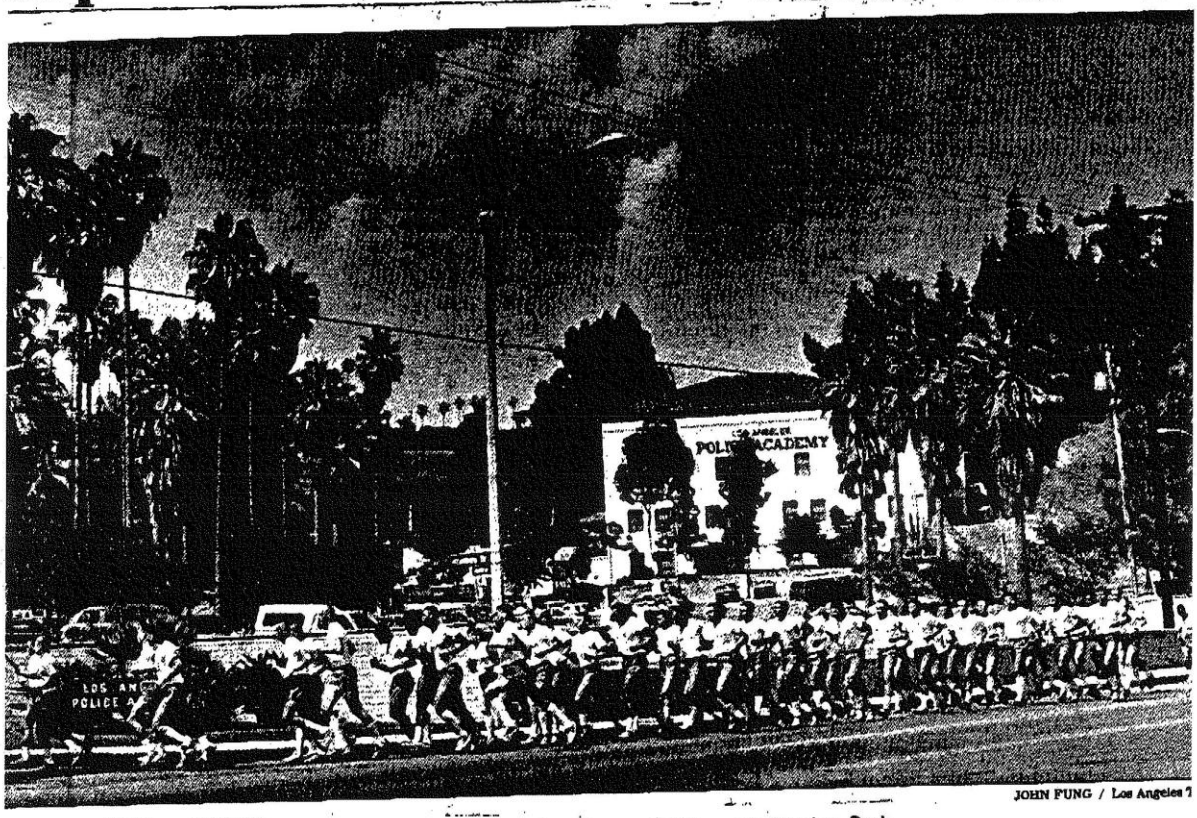
cc: Gloria Molina, Councilperson, 1st Dist.
James Hadaway, Gen. Mgr., Recreation & Parks Dept.
Senator David Roberti
Senator Art Torres
Assembleyman Richard Polanco
L.A. Rec. & Parks Commission
Sierra Club, Angelus Chapter

*The following groups support CCSEP's stand:
The Federation of Hillside &Canyon Dwellers (including Elysian Heights Assn.)
Echo Park Homeowners & Renters Assn.
Solano Community Improvement Orginization

Angeles Times

Thursday, July 30, 1987

mpact of Police Academy to Be Studied



JOHN FUNG / Los Angeles T

Los Angeles Police Academy cadets jogging in formation through Elysian Park have aroused the ire of park preservationists.

By LARRY GORDON, *Times Staff Writer*

A proposed $24-million expansion and renovation of the Los Angeles Police Academy should be examined for possibly adverse effects on its surroundings in Elysian Park, a city panel said Wednesday.

The Board of Public Works voted unanimously to require an environmental impact report on the controversial plan to construct classroom buildings, parking garages, a cafeteria and gymnasium at the academy's existing site, surrounded by parkland near Dodger Stadium.

The study will also examine the

The Police Department long has complained that the training facilities, some of which were built in the 1930s, are antiquated and crowded. "It's remarkable the police have been operating there so long with such lousy facilities," said Paul J. McCarty, the city architect in charge of the proposed renovation.

Criticism of Academy

However, park preservationists and some nearby homeowner associations argue that the academy brings unwanted traffic and the

In 1975, leaders of the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park even sued the Police Department in an attempt to stop the tradition of police cadets jogging in formation through the park; the police won that suit and such jogging is still a frequent sight.

"We can't dispute that the police deserve a better facility. They are just crammed in there now. But no amount of extra buildings or state-of-the-art technology is going to make that spot adequate for them," Sallie Neubauer, president of the citizens committee, said this

Los Angeles Times

Thursday, July 30, 1987

POLICE: Academy Impact to Be Studied

bauer said, her organization fears that the expansion will not be the last and that the academy is going to annex park acreage. "They are going to expand again, and that's curtains for the park," she said.

McCarty and city engineers originally asked the Board of Public Work to recommend the expansion to the mayor and City Council. But, earlier this week, McCarty said he will now postpone that request and instead ask for a $25,000 environmental impact report (EIR) as a first step. Protests from Neubauer and others helped to convince him, he said.

"This is a reasonable thing to do," McCarty said of the EIR.

The budget request for the EIR is expected to go to the City Council for review in the next few weeks.

In 1972, a city study found that the academy's present site "is now and will always be inadequate for the high quality and comprehensive training required for the Los Angeles Police Department." It recommended several other locations for a new academy, including Villa Cabrini, a former parochial school in Sunland-Tujunga, O'Melveny Park near Granada Hills and property on various abandoned city reservoirs.

But the Police Department has the nearly 25-acre site but did not seem to pay much attention at first to the formal ownership or zoning of the land.

In 1972, Los Angeles voters approved a charter amendment that changed the formal status of 21 acres of the academy from parkland to the domain of the Public Works Department. That was to allow a reconstruction project that never took place. Police officials are quick to point out now resisted moving the academy. The existing site is convenient for many officers from inner-city police divisions who have to take refresher courses in marksmanship. The academy is only about 10 minutes from police headquarters downtown.

The academy grew from what was originally a recreation center run by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, a private organization to which most city policemen belonged. There are about 160 employees at the academy, with nearly 275 cadets on campus at any one time. Over the years, the city added structures on that the academy, although surrounded by Elysian Park, is no longer part of the park.

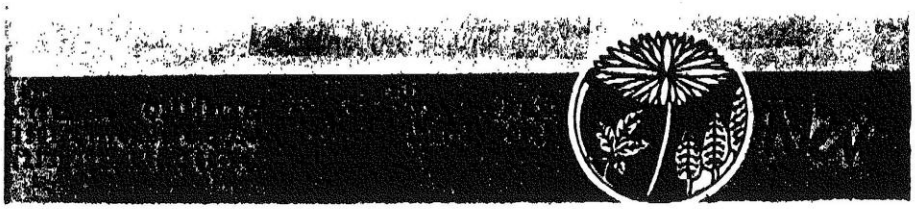
Meanwhile, 3.7 acres are still owned by the Revolver and Athletic Club. The Public Works Department wants to acquire that land in exchange for, among other things, giving the club permanent rights to continue to run a restaurant at the academy and to cover the club's liability insurance.

"The city would like clear title to all the property here before they upgrade the buildings. But the city has to first negotiate with the Revolver Club," said police officer Chuck Foote, who is secretary-treasurer of the club. He said those negotiations have not started.

McCarty said acquisition is crucial to the expansion project.

The environmental study is expected to take up to a year and will include public hearings. McCarty added that construction would not begin for at least three years, even if all else goes smoothly.

Comment Letter B



July 14, 1987

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE POLICE IN ELYSIAN PARK

THE STORY of how the Police Department (LAPD) parlayed a public target range in Elysian Park into a full-blown Police Academy which they now regard as their "ancestral home" dates back to the mid-1920s. The Police were then given permission to set up a target range for joint use by the Police and the public. By 1935, the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club, Inc., the Department's alter ego, had built on adjacent park land a recreation building, restaurant and swimming pool.

THE CLUB then sought and was granted by the Board of Park Commissioners a permit to use 21.46 acres of the Park for 25 years, with an option for an additional 10 years, or until 1970. Seven years before expiration date, in 1963, the permit was renewed for another 25 years, until 1995. Both permits were for recreational purposes only, with facilities to be used by Club members and the public on equal terms.

PERMITS ILLEGAL

THERE WAS ONE DIFFICULTY with the permits. They were illegally issued, according to the City Attorney, January 26, 1972. There was a second difficulty also. Over the years, neither the Police nor the Parks Department paid much attention to the conditions contained in the permits. Bit by bit, recreational use gave way to Police training, while public use was curbed. Both developments violate the terms of the permit. Both are likewise in flagrant violation of the City Charter, Section 170 (b) (3), which mandates that park land must be used exclusively for park purposes.

BUT THE LAPD didn't seem bothered by the illegalities, since no one interfered either with their activities or their plans. With its continued growth and the introduction of new weaponry, the LAPD began spreading out over additional park land. In 1966, they took over the upper portion of the Bishop Canyon landfill for tear-gas grenade practice. In 1967, they asked permission to place a $23,000,000 bond proposition on the ballot, $5,000,000 of which was earmarked for a new academy. No mention was made of its proposed location.

CHANGING CLIMATE

BY 1967, however, times had changed. Neighborhood organizations had sprung up here, as elsewhere, established for the purpose of protecting the environment, including parks. The Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park was one such group. It tried to get the Police Department to agree to build its new academy outside the park. The Department refused to make such a commitment. The bond proposal was defeated at the polls.

THE NEXT YEAR, 1968, the Police proposed another bond proposition, this time for $25,000,000, again with $5,000,000 allocated for a new academy. As before, the site of the new academy was not designated. But this time, the City Council intervened and inserted into the text of the bond proposal language prohibiting use of the bond money for improvements or construction of a training academy "in Elysian Park." That bond issue passed.

[redacted]

July 14,1987

P. 2

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE POLICE IN ELYSIAN PARK

SINCE THEN, the Police have made a series of unsuccessful attempts to entrench themselves in Elysian Park, despite Charter and bond restrictions. They finally concluded that the only way they could accomplish this and forge ahead with a 5 yr. expansion/renovation plan was to change the City Charter itself. Pressured by the Police Dept. and the mayor, a bare majority of the City Council voted to place a Charter Amendment which would transfer 21 acres of park land into the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works. The Police mounted a scare campaign claiming it would cost $25,000,000 to relocate— a figure greatly inflated from any of the 9 alternate site estimates prepared by the City Administrative Officer (CAO) in a report dated July 31,1972.

Unfortunately, there was not enough time to really educate the public on the underlying dangers of the land transfer and in November of 1972 21 acres of park land was lost.

1972 -- 5 Year Expansion Plan -- 1987

Now in 1987 the Police again want to implement their 5 year expansion/renovation program. They say they will only use the land they currently accupy (21 acres plus the 4 acres owned by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club (LAPRAC)). Are we really to believe that? The park must be saved from more land grabs. Now is the time for the Police to move out of Elysian Park and find a more suitable area to build and to expand for now and the future.

REPORT FROM

from Mr. Jim Sobjeck
Public Administrative Assn.
5-5218 [x]

Comment Letter B

REPORT FROM

5-5218 [2]

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

TO	DATE	CAO FILE No.
City Council	July 31,1972	0220-627
REFERENCE Motion of Council requesting study - June 8, 1972.		COUNCIL FILE No. 70-5114
SUBJECT Police Training Facility		COUNCIL DISTRICT

SUMMARY

On June 8, 1972, the City Council by motion instructed this Office to make a complete cost study of all alternative site proposals associated with the possible relocation of the Police Academy including the study of possible consolidation of police training facilities with the County.

With the cooperation of all concerned agencies we have met your August 1 due date. With a less restrictive study period we could have provided more precise cost estimates, however the costs presented are reasonable, reflect the magnitude of resources involved, and are sufficient for decision-making purposes.

We have conducted aerial surveys of the Los Angeles area and interviewed realtors, and various public officials. We have studied 26 potential locations, and have reached the following conclusions:

1. The Elysian Park Site is now and will always be inadequate for the high quality and comprehensive training required for the Los Angeles Police Department.

2. The continuing development of Elysian Park under both the Recreation and Parks Master Plan, and the current Emergency Employment Act watering program, will result in increased public use of the park surrounding the academy site. This will result in constant irritation and is an incompatible use of public land.

(Summary Continued)

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Responses to Comment Letter B

Comment B-1

The commenter states that the outcome of the project on the Elysian Park Police Academy campus for which the 1992 EIR was prepared resulted in the purchase of the Hewlett-Packard Training Facility in Westchester. One of the attachments to Comment Letter B is the first page of a City Chief Administrative Officer report from 1972 (see page 80, above), which states that the Elysian Park Police Academy campus is inadequate for comprehensive LAPD training purposes and that further development of Elysian Park surrounding the Police Academy campus would present incompatibilities between the sites.

The previous project involved the construction of a 224,000-square-foot training facility and the Elysian Park campus was one of six sites evaluated for its location. The currently proposed project, which is not related to the previous project, would involve the construction of a more modest 24,000-square-foot permanent training facility to replace the temporary trailer buildings on the campus that have fallen into disrepair and do not meet City standards for employees. The current project is not intended to meet the comprehensive needs of all recruits enrolled in the Academy on all campuses but to upgrade the Elysian Park facility to meet current training needs and to provide flexibility for future training needs at that site only. No expansion in enrollment at the current site is proposed. Not all of the trailers on the site are City-owned and meet City standards. The training that will take place at Elysian Park includes some recruit training, but will focus on in-service training for both sworn and civilian personnel. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the MND.

Comment B-2

The commenter states that the Hewlett-Packard Training Facility was not at capacity when the commenter visited in February of 2010.

The Westchester facility provides not only the primary location for Police Officer training, but also the expanded LAPD High School Magnet Program. The use of the Westchester facility fluctuates based on the number of personnel being hired which can affect both class size and frequency. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the MND.

Comment B-3

The commenter states that the building is approximately 4,000 square feet larger than the LAPD had previously presented the Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park in 2010.

The proposed training facility's square footage was the result of an iterative design process in which the designer attempted to meet all of needs of the LAPD subject to constraints and code requirements. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

The commenter inquires about the need to provide additional parking despite the lack of an increase in training at the site.

The parking that would be provided as a component of the proposed project is based on regulations established in LAMC Section 12.21 (A). The building requires one parking space for each 500 square feet of floor area. In addition to the 15 existing spaces in the southeastern lot, the project would add 46 spaces, totaling 61 parking spaces in the lot. Three disabled access parking spaces would also be placed adjacent to the building. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-4
The commenter states that the project description is incorrect regarding the location of the proposed project, and that the Police Academy is adjacent to Elysian Park and adjacent to the Dodger Stadium special event parking.

Comment noted. Figures 1 and 2 of the IS/MND depict the project location as adjacent to Elysian Park and Dodger Stadium parking areas. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-5
The commenter requests fact sheets that prove than an average of 12 classes of recruits are trained per year.

Comment noted. No such fact sheets are readily available from the LAPD. Recruit classes are started every four weeks (a class is not started during the December holiday season) which accounts for the 12 classes. Classes may be postponed until there is an appropriate size, and variability in recruit class sizes and schedules stems from the retirement of officers, attrition of recruits, and budget considerations, among other factors. Most classes have approximately 45 to 60 recruits, and there are a maximum of six classes in session at any time. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-6
The commenter inquires as to why recruits need to train at the Elysian Park campus at all despite the availability of the Westchester site.

As discussed in the response to comment B-1, training at the Elysian Park campus includes some recruit training, but focuses on in-service training for both sworn and civilian personnel. The Elysian Park Police Academy campus offers a more central location preferred by many officers and civilian personnel. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-7
The commenter inquires about the number, location, and square footage of trailer buildings that would be replaced by the proposed project.

Four trailer buildings would be removed from the Police Academy campus, two of which are located adjacent to the existing tennis court, and the other two are located in the existing parking lot on the southeastern portion of the campus. In addition to the four trailer buildings that would be removed, one trailer building would be relocated to another location on the southeastern portion of the campus adjacent to the parking lot. The total square footage of the trailer buildings (including those not owned by the City) to be displaced is approximately 12,000 square feet. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-8
The commenter states that the expansion of the existing parking lot is unacceptable, and that the green space is planted with memorial trees honoring loved ones.

There is one known memorial tree at the project site. The memorial tree is located on the site of the proposed training building and would be either relocated or replaced elsewhere on the campus. There are no known memorial trees at the site of the proposed expansion to the parking lot. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-9
The commenter states that 9,100 cubic yards of soil that would be removed for the project seems excessive, and that removing soil from the hillside would warrant further study. The commenter also states that haul route and hours of operation must be addressed.

The 9,100 cubic yards of soil is an estimation based on the proposed facility configuration. As detailed in the 2010 Geotechnical Engineering report prepared by City of Los Angeles geotechnical engineers, all site clearing will be observed by City engineers in order to avoid landslide issues. Regarding hours of operation and haul routes, the proposed project would comply with the Bureau of Engineering Master Specifications. Haul routes will be determined as part of the overall permitting process and the Contractor will obtain a Haul Route Permit prior to the start of the construction period. Given the temporary nature of excavation and soil removal activities, hauling soil from the site would not result in significant impacts. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-10
The commenter states that the proposed training facility is "inappropriately huge," and would impede views from Elysian Park above.

The proposed training facility would comply with the building height limitations dictated by the zoning of the site. It would be no taller than 42 feet, which is not tall enough to obscure fields of vision from the upper portion of Elysian Park. Furthermore, the proposed training facility would be a split-level building integrated into the hilly terrain for a less visually-intrusive design.~~.~~ While the project would be visible from the upper portions of Elysian Park, like other structures on the Police Academy campus, views of Dodger Stadium and Downtown Los Angeles would not be obstructed. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-11
The commenter states that the Solano community is 0.04 (assumed to mean 0.4) miles east, not south of the project site.

The commenter is correct in stating that the Solano community is 0.4 miles to the east of the project site, but the residential community to the south of the project site along N Boylston Street is located slightly closer. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-12
The commenter states that aesthetics and noise are possible significant impacts on Elysian Park.

Please refer to Comment B-10 regarding the impacts of the proposed project on aesthetics. With respect to noise, the project would result in unavoidable noise associated with construction. This construction noise, however, would be temporary, and would not result in substantially greater noise levels than those generated at the Police Academy shooting ranges. Following the completion of construction, the operational noise of the proposed training facility would be minimal. The commenter does not raise a concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-13
The commenter states that there is no mention of air conditioners, air conditioner ducts, or generators.

The installation and operation of air conditioners and their duct work is an implied component of the

proposed training facility and would be subject to the standards of all relevant building codes to ensure proper installation and function. As such, impacts related to the heating and cooling of the proposed training facility would be less than significant. The design features the ability to connect to a mobile generator, which is discussed in the project description as an emergency electricity source during extended periods of power outages. Such infrequent use of a mobile generator would result in less-than-significant impacts. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-14

The commenter states that it is unlikely that there are no California Walnut trees that would be displaced by the project, and that such removal would require the replacement of two trees for every one removed.

An assessment of the site by ICF biologists in June 2012 did not identify any California Walnut trees. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-15

The commenter states that the 1992 EIR identified six culturally significant features on the Elysian Park Police Academy campus, including the removal of retaining walls that would "mar the cultural/historic fabric."

The 1992 EIR identifies the retaining walls as a "resource of note" to the campus, but not as one of the "significant resources." In 2012, the retaining walls were again evaluated and determined not to be eligible for the National Register. The proposed project involves removal of several portions of the retaining walls along the western portion of the access road. These walls were evaluated and found to display less quality of workmanship and materials than the walls which will remain. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-16

The commenter states that the Echo Park-Silver Lake-Elysian Park Community Plan recommends that training at the Police Academy is to be phased out and the land is to be transferred to Elysian Park.

The Echo Park-Silver Lake-Elysian Park Community Plan has a program under Policy 4-1.2 that encourages the reuse of obsolete or underused publicly-owned property, but there is no specific mention of the transfer of the Police Academy campus within the Community Plan. City Charter Section 597, while its primary purpose was to place areas that served as the Police Academy campus grounds under the jurisdiction of the Department of Public Works, addresses the transfer of the site to the Department of Recreation and Parks upon abandonment of the site for police training. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

The commenter states that City Charter Section 597 details how encroachment by police training in Elysian Park resulted in the taking of park land, and Section 597 recommends the area for transfer to the Department of Recreation and Parks upon abandonment of the site for police training purposes.

City Charter Section 597 transferred approximately 21.5 acres of Elysian Park land that was used as a police training facility as of 1972 to the Department of Public Works for use as public buildings and grounds, including use as police training facilities and related purposes. The commenter correctly states that City Charter Section 597 calls for the transfer of the City-owned parcels to the Department of Recreation and Parks upon abandonment of the site as a police training facility, but City Charter Section 597 does not specify a timeline for that transfer. The proposed project is based on the continuing need for police training on the Academy campus. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-17
The commenter states that the proposed parking expansion area is incorrectly identified as non-park owned.

According to Ordinance 138523, which was approved in April of 1969, a 40-acre parcel of property in the Chavez Ravine (which includes the proposed parking expansion area) was withdrawn from the jurisdiction and control of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners and transferred to the Board of Public Works for use, assignment, and development for public purposes such as police facilities by resolution of the City Council. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-18
The commenter states there is no mention of generators or air conditioners with respect to noise.

Please refer to the response to Comment B-13. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-19
The commenter states that it is inappropriate and environmentally damaging to double the square footage of training facilities and to remove 10,000 square feet of open space.

The entire IS/MND document addresses the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed training facility and associated parking. With the implementation of mitigation measures contained in the IS/MND, the proposed project would not have any significant environmental impacts. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-20
The commenter states that the building will directly and indirectly have adverse effects on humans looking down on it from the upper portion of Elysian Park.

Please refer to the response to Comment B-10. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-21
In reference to mitigation measure BIO-2, the commenter inquires how trees with potential bat roosts can be left undisturbed as the rest of the site is being bulldozed.

Mitigation measure BIO-2 outlines the procedures for the protection of bat species in the event that they are encountered during the construction period. The third item of the mitigation measure BIO-2 specifies a process to induce bats to abandon trees that would be removed as a result of the project. The roosts in trees that are to be removed would be disturbed, but the bats would be able to leave their current roosts and establish roosts nearby. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-22
The commenter states that the proposed project has a potentially significant impact with respect to the visual character and quality of the area due to the proposed training facility's size and potential to obstruct views from the upper portion of Elysian Park.

Please refer to the response to Comment B-10. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment B-23
The commenter repeats that the proposed project would degrade historic resources.

Please refer to the response to B-15. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment Letter C

From: **Echo Park Historical Society** <ephs@historicechopark.org>
Date: Tue, Aug 28, 2012 at 5:48 PM
Subject: Initial Study/Police Academy Repalcement Training Faciltiy
To: norman.mundy@lacity.org

Dear Mr. Mundy,

C-1 The Echo Park Historical Society, (EPHS), would like to request that the LAMC code required parking for a new building be waived for this project. The facility is to replace existing portable classrooms with a permanent structure and no increase in attendance or staff is anticipated, per the Initial Study. With that in mind, we would like to request that the requirement to expand the existing asphalt parking area be waived. The Academy currently is eligible for listing on the National Historic Register of Historic Places, as well as adjacent Elysian Park. In hopes to preserve the Historic fabric of the Campus, we respectfully request that the parking on the southeast portion of the project be adjusted to not disrupt the existing green belt connecting the Academy Property to Elysian Park,

C-2

Thank you,

Holly Hampton, Vice President

on behalf of:
--
The Echo Park Historical Society / www.HistoricEchoPark.org / 323-860-8874

Responses to Comment Letter C

Comment C-1

The commenter requests that the code-required parking for the new building be waived for the proposed project in order to prevent the paving of the landscaped area on the southeastern portion of the campus.

Comment noted. Please refer to the response to A-1 and A-2. The parking is subject to the code-required parking. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

Comment C-2

The commenter states that the Police Academy campus is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and is located adjacent to Elysian Park. The commenter requests that the proposed parking expansion on the southeastern portion of the campus be adjusted to avoid disrupting the landscaped area in order to preserve the historic character of the campus.

As noted in the response to comment A-3, the entire Police Academy campus is not considered culturally significant, although some of its constituent buildings and landmarks are culturally significant. The paving of the landscaped area would not modify these cultural resources. The commenter does not raise an environmental concern that would change the findings of the IS/MND.

MITIGATION MONITORING PROGRAM

FOR

Police Academy Replacement Training Facility

W.O. E170828F

Initial Study/ Mitigated Negative Declaration

Prepared By

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING

September 2012

Introduction

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires public agencies to adopt a reporting or monitoring program for the changes to the project that have been adopted to mitigate or avoid significant effects on the environment. The program must be adopted by the public agency at the time findings are made regarding the project (Public Resources Code Section 21081.6). The State CEQA Guidelines (Section 15097 (c) allow public agencies to choose whether its program will monitor mitigation, report on mitigation, or both. This mitigation monitoring program contains the elements required by CEQA for the Police Academy Replacement Training Facility Project.

Project Description

The proposed project would construct a 24,000-square-foot multi-level building on a sloped site adjacent to the private portion of Academy Drive and west of the existing Police Academy buildings on the Elysian Park campus. The new building would provide 9,600 square feet of flexible classroom space and a virtual teaching component to accommodate 310 attendees; 6,200 square feet of open office space, including a conference room and a break room; 4,800 square feet of "back of house" space (i.e., elevators, toilets, custodial space); and 3,360 square feet of storage space. The second level would include the classroom space and a majority of the office space, while the storage space, virtual teaching area, and balance of the office space would be located on the first level. The proposed building would replace an existing tennis court and on-site trailers, which are currently used as classrooms. The building would qualify for a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver designation from the U.S. Green Building Council, as mandated by City of Los Angeles policy for newly constructed public buildings, and comply with the Los Angeles Green Building Code, which is based on the 2010 California Green Building Standards Code, known as CALGreen. The new building would be designed to be visually compatible with the existing architectural environment in terms of bulk and height.

The proposed project would include code-required parking in two separate locations, with one area adjacent to the proposed training facility and the other in the southeastern portion of the campus. The parking area adjacent to the training facility would include three spaces for the disabled. In the southeastern portion of the campus, the parking lot on the corner of Academy Road and Malvina Avenue would be expanded, paved, and striped to provide an additional 46 spaces, increasing the total number of spaces at this lot to 61 (see Figure 3 in Initial Study). Two of the three trailers on this lot would be removed; the third would be relocated in the same area.

Construction of the proposed project would last from the spring of 2014 to the summer of 2015, a period of approximately 16 to 18 months. During this time, partial closures of Malvina Avenue and Academy Drive are anticipated, but long-term access to the site would not be affected. In addition, partial closures of Academy Road may be needed for utility service connections.

Partial road closures would be minimized during peak periods to the extent feasible. Grading would occur at the project site, and an estimated 9,100 cubic yards of soil would be removed.

An additional 700 cubic yards of soil would be removed from the proposed parking lot expansion area. The project would comply with grading and hauling requirements set forth by the Department of Building and Safety.

Other improvements would include retaining walls, fences, flat work, and landscaping. Final site grades are expected to be approximately the same as the current grades. The site for the new building is already terraced, with the different levels separated by retaining walls. The split-level building would take advantage of these existing terraces, but some grade changes and new retaining walls would be required as part of proposed development.

Operational characteristics of the proposed project would include the following:

1. The building would be accessible to LAPD personnel 24/7, with normal business hours being 5 a.m. to 4 p.m. The building would not be open to the public.

2. The proposed project would include five classrooms of various sizes to provide flexibility and one classroom for use as a virtual teaching environment. Fixed seating would not be provided in the classrooms.

3. The proposed project would include general open office space for LAPD employees, including officers and their supervisors. The office space would be supported by a conference room, a break room, and space for equipment and supplies. The proposed project would include storage space for materials that support classroom and office activities.

4. The proposed project would have the ability to hook up to a mobile generator in the event of an emergency, although a permanent back-up power connection would not be provided.

The analysis in this document assumes that, unless otherwise stated, the project will be designed, constructed and operated following all applicable laws, regulations, ordinances and formally adopted City standards (e.g., *Los Angeles Municipal Code* and Bureau of Engineering *Standard Plans*). Also, the analysis in this document assumes that construction will follow the uniform practices established by the Southern California Chapter of the American Public Works Association (e.g., *Standard Specifications for Public Works Construction* and the *Work Area Traffic Control Handbook*) as specifically adapted by the City of Los Angeles (e.g., The City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works *Additions and Amendments to the Standard Specifications For Public Works Construction* (AKA "The Brown Book," formerly Standard Plan S-610)).

Mitigation Measures

The mitigation measures described in the following pages are taken from the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) and related documents. The measures listed according to the stages of the project at which each mitigation measure must be implemented: design, construction, and operation.

Within each project phase, the following are identified for each mitigation measure:

(1) An “identifier” providing a nexus between the listed mitigation measure and the source document. The source document should be consulted whenever there is any question regarding the intent or implementation of the mitigation measure.
(2) description of the mitigation measure,
(3) the party who is responsible for the necessary implementing actions,
(4) the necessary implementing vehicle,
(5) the party who is responsible for verifying that the necessary implementing action is taken, and
(6) the primary record documenting the necessary implementing action.

The mechanisms for verifying that mitigation measures have been implemented include design drawings, construction documents intended for use by construction contractors and construction managers, field inspections, field reports, and other periodic or special reports. All records pertaining to this mitigation program will be maintained and made available for inspection by the public in accordance with the City’s records management systems and policies.

CONSTRUCTION PHASE

Identifier	Mitigation Measures	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation Vehicle	Enforcement Responsibility	Record of Implementation
Biological Resources					
BIO-1	To avoid potential impacts on nesting peregrine falcons and other bird species that may nest in the direct footprint of the project, proposed project activities (including clearing and grubbing, tree removal, and disturbances to native and nonnative vegetation, structures, and substrates) shall occur outside of the avian breeding season, which generally runs from February 1 to August 31, to avoid take of birds or their eggs. If avoidance of the avian breeding season is not feasible, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) typically recommends that a qualified biologist with experience in conducting breeding bird surveys conduct a survey no more than 3 days prior to the initiation of project activities to detect protected native birds nesting in habitat that is to be disturbed and (as access to adjacent areas allows) any nests within 100 feet of the disturbance area (within 500 feet for raptors). If an active nest is located, project activities must be restricted within a 100-foot buffer of the nest (within 500 feet for raptor nests), unless otherwise approved by CDFG. The buffer will remain in place until any nests are inactive and there is no evidence of other nests in the buffer. Flagging, stakes, and/or construction fencing should be used to demarcate the boundary of the nest buffer where it overlaps the disturbance limits.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications will ensure that the Construction Contractor retains a qualified biologist capable of conducting the necessary bird surveys prior to construction.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications
		Construction Contractor (qualified biologist)	Pre-construction bird survey, a report on which will be provided to the Bureau of Engineering Project Manager prior to the initiation of construction.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Report on the results of the pre-construction bird survey.

Identifier	Mitigation Measures	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation Vehicle	Enforcement Responsibility	Record of Implementation
BIO-2	To avoid potential impacts on special-status bat species, the following avoidance and minimization measures shall be implemented unless otherwise authorized by CDFG: 1. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the maternity season (April 15-August 15), a qualified bat biologist will conduct a one-night emergence survey during acceptable weather conditions (no rain or high winds, night temperatures above 45˚F) or, if conditions permit, physically examine the roost for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the maternity season when young are self-sufficiently volant. If trees with bat roost potential require removal during the winter months when bats are in torpor (October 31–February 15, dependent on specific weather conditions), a qualified bat biologist will physically examine the roost if conditions permit for the presence or absence of bats (such as with lift equipment) before the start of construction. If the roost is determined to be occupied during this time, the tree will be avoided until after the winter season when bats are once again active. 2. Trees with potential colonial bat habitat (defined as trees with cavities, crevices, exfoliating bark, and bark fissures) can be removed outside of the maternity season and winter season (April 15–August 15 and October 31–February 15) using a two-step tree trimming process that occurs over two consecutive days. On Day 1, under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist, Step 1 will include branches and limbs with no cavities removed by hand (e.g., using chainsaws). This will create a disturbance (noise and vibration) and physically alter the tree. Bats roosting in the tree will either abandon the roost immediately (rarely) or, after emergence, avoid returning to the roost. On Day 2, Step 2 of tree removal may occur (i.e., removal of the remainder of the tree). Trees that	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications will ensure that the Construction Contractor retains a qualified biologist capable of conducting the necessary bat roost examinations and supervising removal of trees where bats reside.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications
		Construction Contractor (qualified biologist)	The qualified biologist will conduct an examination of any trees with bat roost potential and provide supervision of tree removal.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Report on the findings of the bat roost examination.

Identifier	Mitigation Measures	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation Vehicle	Enforcement Responsibility	Record of Implementation
	are only to be trimmed and not removed will be processed in the same manner; if a branch with a potential roost must be removed, all surrounding branches will be trimmed on Day 1 under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist and then the limb with the potential roost will be removed on Day 2. 3. Trees with foliage (and without colonial bat roost potential) that can support lasiurine bats, such as the solitary western yellow bat (the only special-status lasiurine species with the potential to occur in the project area) will have the two-step tree trimming process occur over 1 day under the supervision of a qualified bat biologist. Step 1 will be to remove adjacent, smaller, or non-habitat trees to create noise and vibration disturbance that will cause abandonment. Step 2 will be to remove the remainder of the tree on that same day.				
BIO-3	The project shall comply with City of Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance Number 177404. If removal or relocation of the two mature planted native oak trees identified within the grading limits is determined necessary for the provision of the proposed parking area, the city's Chief Forester shall be consulted. Upon approval by the Chief Forester, each removed protected tree will be replaced with two protected trees (15-gallons or larger), with a minimum diameter of 1 inch at a point 1 foot above the ground and a height of at least 7 feet.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications will ensure that the construction contractor is aware of the requirements of the Protected Tree Ordinance.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications
		Construction Contractor	The Construction Contractor will notify in writing and seek the approval of the Chief Forester for the potential removal and replacement of the two protected trees.	Chief Forester, Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	The Construction Contractor will provide written notification to the Chief Forester and Bureau of Engineering Project Manager regarding the removal or relocation of protected trees.

Identifier	Mitigation Measures	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation Vehicle	Enforcement Responsibility	Record of Implementation
Paleontological Resources					
PR-1	Project plans will specify that if buried paleontological resources are inadvertently discovered during ground-disturbing activities, work will stop in that area and within 50 feet of the find until a qualified paleontologist can assess the significance of the find and, if necessary, develop appropriate treatment measures. Work will cease within the vicinity of the fossils so they could be recovered and removed from the site. If fossils resources are recovered, all recovered specimens will be prepared to a point of identification and permanent preservation, including washing of sediments to recover small invertebrates and vertebrates. Preparation and stabilization of all recovered fossils are essential to mitigate fully adverse impacts on the resources. All specimens will be identified as possible and curated into an established, accredited museum repository with permanent retrievable paleontologic storage. A report of findings will be prepared, including an appended itemized inventory of specimens.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications will ensure that the construction contractor retains a qualified paleontologist and that work will stop in the event of discovery of paleontological resources.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications
		Construction Contractor	The construction contractor will stop work in the event of discovery of any items that may be considered paleontological resources.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	The construction contractor will provide written notification to the Bureau of Engineering Project Manager in the event of any work stoppages due to paleontological resources.
		Construction Contractor (qualified paleontologist)	The qualified paleontologist will assess the significance of any findings and develop appropriate treatment measures if necessary.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	The qualified paleontologist will provide a closeout report detailing the actions taken with respect to any paleontological resources discovered.

Identifier	Mitigation Measures	Implementation Responsibility	Implementation Vehicle	Enforcement Responsibility	Record of Implementation
Geology and Soils					
GEO-1	The project will implement the recommendations offered in the November 2010 geotechnical engineering report and subsequent supplementary report(s) to minimize risks associated with building the training facility in a landslide-prone area. The recommendations include providing new retaining walls and maintaining all new slopes at a 2:1 horizontal-to-vertical run ratio (H:V), or other appropriate slope stabilization measures.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications will ensure that the Construction Contractor follows the recommendations of geotechnical engineering reports completed for the project.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	Project Plans & Specifications
		Construction Contractor	The Construction Contractor will follow the recommendations laid out in the geotechnical engineering reports completed for the project.	Bureau of Engineering Project Manager	The Construction Contractor will provide a closeout report regarding actions taken to reduce the risk of landslides.